



# BOLLETTINO



## ICF Celebrates Italian Heritage Month



Clockwise from upper left: (1) Volunteers on ICF float at the 150th Italian Heritage Parade in San Francisco (Oct 7, 2018); (2) Members of American Martyrs Branch 447, Manhattan Beach, CA, supporting Italian American Museum of Los Angeles (IAMLA) 10th Annual Taste of Italy event (Oct 13, 2018); (3) Italian-American Heritage Month Celebration held at LA City Hall, with members attending from St. John Joseph of the Cross Branch 115, San Pedro, CA (Oct 12, 2018); and (4) Queen and Court from Our Lady of the Rosary's 10th Annual Festa procession to the San Diego waterfront, led by Branch 230 (Oct 7, 2018)

### Richard Interrante PR Committee

Members of the ICF celebrate their passion for heritage through participation in various events within their branches, districts, parishes and cities over the course of each year. The month of October was particularly rich with focus on heritage as many members took part in festivities in recognition of National Italian American Heritage and Culture Month. Let's take a look at four unique events held across the state of California.

Starting in the northern part of the state, on October 7th, a group of ICF members led by Heritage Chair Denise Antonowicz participated in the 150th Italian Heritage Parade in San Francisco (<https://sfitalian-heritage.org/>). The Parade is organized by a group of volunteer members of the Italian American community in San Francisco who work year after year to keep their tra-

ditions alive for future generations. The Parade began at the foot of Jefferson and Powell Streets in Fisherman's Wharf, and ended in Washington Square in front of Saints Peter and Paul Church. The ICF's float, #43 in a cast of hundreds, was the best yet thanks to an intrepid crew that braved early morning winds and cold temperatures for afternoon sun and heat to be a part of ICF history again. Denise especially thanks Jim and Maryann Friebe for driving the ICF's 20 ft float from Hollister and throughout the parade route. She also thanks the best builders and decorators ever: Andy & Sid Pappani, Franklyn Lopes, Jr, Lisa Crudo, Jo-Ann Maggiora Donivan, Leonard Rossi, Russ & Louise Vento, Dante Galeazzi, and of course, her family, Michelle, Germaine and last, but not least her Mom, Marie, who dressed like a chicken and did the Chicken Dance for 2.5 hours at 95 years young!

Continued on Page 3

## Grand President's Monthly Message

Andrew Pappani

Now that we are back, rejuvenated and charged up from our Convention, we have time to share with the rest of the members in our Branches all the ideas we came back with. We can start working on new ideas. The Central Council members are ready to begin working with you in your branches to assist you in gaining and retaining members, working with you within your parishes to maintain your Catholic spirit and connection to the church, helping you with our national charities to benefit those in our communities, and training officers in their duties while looking for leadership within your branches. These are only a few areas that we manage through the Central Council Committees. Please feel free to contact the committee chairs with any ideas or concerns that you have, so that we can be of assistance.



October 7th was the 150th Italian Heritage Parade in San Francisco. The Italian Catholic Federation built a float for the parade, led by Heritage Chairperson Denise Antonowicz. I had an opportunity to participate in this remarkable event. As we were riding down the streets on the float looking at the joy we brought to all the people from every walk of life, young to old, everyone had a bright smile on their face. Marie Antonowicz led the Chicken Dance along the way, and everyone followed along. The Italian Catholic Federation is alive and making a connection with our community.

With officer elections behind us, we look for an uplifting and new optimism for the New Year to gain new members.

We will be having an open enrollment for our Hospitalization Plan in 2019. Please plan to join. All ages are welcome to join, but if you are over the age of 70, this will be a particularly special chance to join and enjoy the benefits of the plan which is normally open only to ages below 70.

"Few things in the world are more powerful than a positive push. A smile. A word of optimism and hope. A 'you can do it' when things are tough." - Richard M. DeVos

"Each of us has a vision of good and evil. We have to encourage people to move towards what they think is good..."

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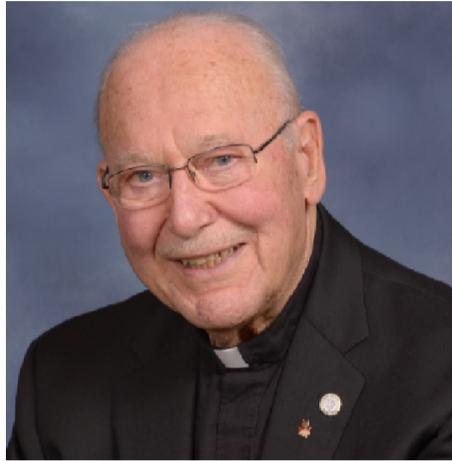
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# The Power of Prayer

**Monsignor Daniel Cardelli**  
**ICF Spiritual Director**



**T**eresa came to our parish when she was a little girl about seven years old. She graduated from our parish school and ultimately Carondelet High School. After college, she became a teacher in our parish school from where she herself graduated. She met Jim, her husband. I performed her marriage within a Nuptial Mass.

Seven years later she and Jim came to see me. She was in tears - copious tears. They wanted to have children and she couldn't get pregnant. I was in a quandary. I didn't know what to do. Eventually, I pulled out the Book of Blessings. Although there

wasn't a special blessing for a woman to become pregnant, there was one for mothers. I adapted that blessing as a prayer for a woman desiring to become a mother.

The following Palm Sunday, she came up to me after Mass with a big smile on her face. I said, "You don't have to tell me, you're pregnant!" She said, "YES! And with twins!" Within the next year or so, she had another baby. And then, can you believe it, the following year or so she had another set of twins. All girls.

Once the word got out, some of Teresa's friends came to me for a blessing so they could have a baby. I did and they did! At the reception of the baptism of the last set of twins, I spoke to a young mother who looked familiar. I said, "Didn't I give you a blessing to have a baby?" "Yes!" she said, and I asked, "Do you want another blessing?" "NO!" she said without any hesitation.

Thanksgiving took on a new meaning for Teresa and her husband, Jim. They have five beautiful girls as proof that the power of prayer is strong and wonderful.

In your life, has the power of prayer helped you in an amazing way? Does it make your Thanksgiving Day extra special?

Think about it! It has for me.



## Grand President

*Continued from Page 1*

Everyone has his own idea of good and evil and must choose to follow the good and fight the evil as he conceives them. That would be enough to make the world a better place." - Pope Francis

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving.

*Andrew J Pappani*

## Important Notice

The new email address for  
ALL Bollettino submissions is:

[editor@icf.org](mailto:editor@icf.org)

All other email addresses being used for Bollettino submissions will be terminated on  
**December 31, 2018.**

We have made this change so that it will be tied directly to the Italian Catholic Federation for a more professional look and better managing of incoming email.

All image and article submissions need to be sent in an electronic format.

**Those submissions not sent in an electronic format or those articles sent in the mail will not be used.**

Finally, a reminder that **ALL branch and district reports need to adhere to the 250 max word count requirement** or they will be shortened or possibly excluded entirely based on editor judgement.

Please keep your submission positive and informative.

**Thank you!**

## 2018-2019 Central Council Contact and Committee Information

Listed below are email addresses for the current Central Council Members. Their email address will apply for all current positions held by the Central Council Members including any Central Council committee chairmanship positions indicated.

Name	Committee(s) Chaired	Email
Denise Antonowicz	Finance, Heritage	<a href="mailto:dantonowicz@icf.org">dantonowicz@icf.org</a>
Robert Basuino	Ways and Means	<a href="mailto:rbasuino@icf.org">rbasuino@icf.org</a>
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Frank Re		<a href="mailto:fre@icf.org">fre@icf.org</a>
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Leonard Rossi		<a href="mailto:lrossi@icf.org">lrossi@icf.org</a>
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## Heritage Month

Continued from Page 1

Moving down to the southern end of the state, Branch 230 in San Diego celebrated their heritage through participation in Our Lady of the Rosary's 10th Annual Festa on October 7th, in honor of our Virgin Mother Mary. To enrich the religious and cultural aspect of worship at OLR, the late Father Steven Grancini instituted the Annual Festa held on the first Sunday in October, uniting several Marian Societies to celebrate and honor the Blessed Mother. The festivities are sponsored by the Societa del Santa Rosario, the Societies of Madonna del Addolorata, Madonna del Lume, and Madonna del Paradiso, Italian Catholic Federation Branch 230, The OLR Guild, and OLR parishioners. This year the 10th Annual Festa celebration was a truly spectacular event, highlighted by an outdoor Mass presided



over by Auxiliary Bishop John P. Dolan, concelebrated with ICF San Diego Diocesan Chaplain Father Joe, Father Louie, Father Albino and Deacon Steven. Last year Branch 230 incorporated their first Queen Yssabela Saaib and Her Court. This year the court, consisting of Queen Hailey Blue, Princesses Megan Sgalio, Winifred Lacona, Amelia Cassady, Crown Prince Evan Shoemaker, Princes Jameison Cassady, Tristan Vigili, and Flower Girl Addison Cassady and last year's Queen, beautifully attired were honored to lead the street procession while reciting the Rosary through the streets of Little Italy to San Diego's waterfront and Embarcadero.

The vessels moored there were blessed, followed by a display of fireworks over the ocean and procession back to Our Lady of the Rosary. After the veneration of the Eucharist there was a release of doves followed by refreshments in the Parish Hall. This Festa is the largest

of its kind in the San Diego region.

Turning our attention north of San Diego to downtown Los Angeles, on October 12th, St. John Joseph of the Cross Branch 115 from San Pedro joined other members of the Italian American community for the 2018 Italian-American Heritage Month Celebration, held at LA City Hall and led by City Councilman Joe Buscaino. The councilman, a first-generation Italian American and native of San Pedro, provided buses for the event which allowed many members from the branch and district to attend. With the Los Angeles area having the 5th largest community of Italian American residents in the U.S., Councilman Buscaino updated attendees on his motion to have a section of San Pedro named Historic Little Italy. Several families were also honored with Italian Spirit Awards for their contributions to business and involvement in the community. A delicious dinner reception was held after the presentation. (See <https://www.facebook.com/JoeBuscaino/videos/547459219032259/> for a video of the event.)

Finally, members from American Martyrs Branch 447 in Manhattan Beach, CA, joined supporters of the Italian American Museum of Los Angeles (IAMLA) in another event in downtown Los Angeles -- the 10th Annual Taste of Italy, held on October 13th. This fun event was held in

a historical setting near the museum under the stars outside Pico House, the first three story building and first grand hotel in downtown Los Angeles. Taste of Italy features Italian food and wine from award-winning restaurants and wineries, and draws over 2,500 attendees each year, including dignitaries, civic leaders and celebrities. Proceeds from Taste of Italy support educational programming and other initiatives related to the Italian American Museum of Los Angeles' mission. (Learn more about IAMLA and the annual Taste of Italy event at <http://iamla.org/>)

These only represent a small sample of events in the state of California that members participated in this year. Members in other cities and states including Arizona, Illinois, and Nevada participate in many more of course, and we look forward to featuring them in a future issue.

We welcome you to reach out to the editor about your involvement in heritage events unique to your region, so we might include a description of them for other members to enjoy.

(Thanks to members Denise Antonowicz, Stephanie DeRaddo, Luanne Ianucci Donahue, John Sgalio, Anita Gioiello Trujillo and Patrizia Vigili for their valuable contributions to this article.)

## Cabrini Pilgrimage Event to Feature Film About ICF Patron Saint

**Carmelo Sabatella**  
LA Archdiocese District

Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini, a co-patron saint of the Italian Catholic Federation, was born in Sant'Angelo Lodigiano in the province of Lombardy, northern Italy, on July 15, 1850. She was a major benefactor for Italian immigrants in the U.S., and the first naturalized US citizen to be declared a saint (July 7, 1946).

In 1916 Mother Cabrini built a small chapel in honor of the Blessed Mother atop Mount Raphael, for the residents of the San Fernando Valley. She made daily mediation visits to the chapel.

For decades, the chapel attracted thousands of pilgrims who made the steep climb every December to honor Mother Cabrini. In 1973, the chapel was moved down the mountain to St. Francis Xavier Church in Burbank where it was restored.

In keeping with tradition, a special Mass honoring Mother Cabrini along with a Pilgrimage to the Mother Cabrini Shrine are held on the first Sunday in December of each year, featuring a procession to the Shrine which begins at St. Francis Xavier Church.

This year's Pilgrimage will be held on December 2, 2018. The Pilgrimage will be followed by a Mass and Benediction at the Chapel, ending with lunch in the Saint Francis Xavier Church Parish Hall.

As a special addition this year, we will be celebrating Mother Cabrini by presenting the latest film about her life entitled, "Frances Xavier Cabrini: The People's



Saint." ([www.motherscabrinifilm.com](http://www.motherscabrinifilm.com))

Filmmaker Lucia Mauro presents a living portrait of the Italy-born saint that showcases her relevance in an ever-changing world. The Patron Saint of Immigrants and Hospital Administrators is explored as a fearless, roll-up-her-sleeves woman who, despite frail health, traveled the world at the turn of the 20th century to serve the less fortunate. It shows the



environment in Lombardy, Italy that shaped her compassionate vision and includes interviews with individuals from all walks of life, who carry on Mother Cabrini's work today as the needs of immigrants and other populations continue to evolve. - Lucia Mauro

Director Lucia Mauro will introduce her film and answer questions in English and Italian after the viewing. DVDs of the film will also be available for purchase.

The Cabrini Chapel Gift Shop will also have new gift items from the Cabrini Shrine Gift Shop in New York.

The LA Archdiocese District thanks all ICF Branches who were able to donate funds in support of the Cabrini Chapel this year and hopes they will continue,

and that other Branches will also be able to contribute through a special collection or fundraiser allowing the Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library to be maintained for future generations to enjoy.

Members that have memorabilia from Mother Cabrini or her former Cabrini facilities and would like to include them in the Cabrini Library/Museum; or would like to help the Mother Cabrini Chapel by volunteering their time or by making a financial contribution, please call Carmelo at (626) 372-7812 or mail your donation(s) to:

ICF Mother Cabrini Chapel and Library  
3801 Scott Road  
Burbank, CA 91504  
Attn: Carmelo Sabatella, President

## Sir Luigi & Lady Augusta Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund Donations\*

RECEIVED AS OF OCT 16, 2018:

### In Memory Of:

Bob Zoccoli  
Mary Stagnaro  
Lucille Freitas  
George E. Nicoletti  
Rosemarie DeMartini  
Most Reverend Richard J. Garcia  
Yvonne Kuzinich  
Elsie Giuntoli  
Paul Cardelli  
Marian Zasoski  
Mario Galeazzi  
David Rose  
Larry Marsalli  
George Nicoletti  
Raymond Giampaoli  
Rosemarie DeMartini  
Sergio Bruni  
Guy Francoz  
Joe Dell'Aquilla  
Richard Cardelli

### Donated By:

Officers/Members of Br. 21  
Officers/Members of Br. 21  
Officers/Members of Br. 26  
Officers/Members of Br. 121  
Officers/Members of Br. 161  
David and Pat Botta  
David and Pat Botta  
David and Pat Botta  
David Botta  
David and Pat Botta  
David and Pat Botta  
David and Pat Botta  
Officers/Members of Chicago District  
Robyn and Vince Piro  
Mary Onetti  
Officers/Members of Br. 21  
Officers/Members of Br. 161  
The Kilcullen Family  
Officers/Members of Central Council

### Get Well Wishes:

Guy Francoz Officers/Members of Br. 161

### Congratulations - 2018 Grand President's Award Recipient:

Jo Bertaccini Mike and Marcie Rossi

### Happy Birthday:

Fr. George Aranha Lorraine and Mike Nunziata

### Happy 95th Birthday:

Marie Antonowicz Mary Rossetto

### In Support of the Providenza Fund:

A donation was made to the Providenza Fund by the I.C.F. Spouses Association  
A donation was made to the Providenza Fund by Br. 227 - Capitola

\*Named after the co-founder of the I.C.F., the Sir Luigi and Lady Augusta Providenza Seminary Scholarship Fund provides I.C.F. members a lasting way to memorialize and/or extend greetings to friends, relatives, and loved ones. Members' donations provide scholarships to seminarians studying for the priesthood in dioceses where the Italian Catholic Federation is located. A monthly Mass is offered for the intention of those listed.

## In Loving Memory (as of 10/14/18)

George J Matrangola	Branch 001	Rosemarie De Martini	Branch 161
Marlis Rizzo	Branch 007	Dolores Martino	Branch 209
Sarah M Darter	Branch 018	William B Houwer	Branch 213
Lucille Freitas	Branch 026	John Whalen	Branch 214
Harry E Mucha	Branch 036	Alfred Daddino	Branch 250
Eugene Canderle	Branch 047	Edith Scruggs	Branch 319
Ralph J Del Prete	Branch 047	Dolores A Arata	Branch 327
John Giampaoli	Branch 047	Albert E Navarra	Branch 390
Tina Mezzetta	Branch 047	Rosanne Snapp	Branch 391
Eleanor Lencioni	Branch 121	Ralph J Del Prete	Branch 403

## Scholarship Donations

RECEIVED AS OF OCT 16, 2018:

### 1st Year

Sam and Judy Bozzo  
In memory of Laura Angelino  
Officers/Members of Br. 435  
In memory of Nancy Morabito  
Aldine Grisenti  
Get well wishes for Ed Bertaccini

### 2nd - 4th Year

Aldine Grisenti  
In honor of the 80th birthday of  
Liz Donaldson

## Cooley's Anemia Donations

RECEIVED AS OF OCT 16, 2018:

Branch 18

Branch 32

Branch 227

Branch 425

## Gifts of Love Donations

RECEIVED AS OF OCT 16, 2018:

Branch 32  
Branch 425  
Jacquelyn M. Labrucherie  
Frances Foglia-Teglia  
Officers/Members of Br. 327  
In memory of Jim Maffei  
Jeff and Diane Goody and Family  
In memory of Robert Zoccoli  
Joan and Jerry Delfino  
In honor of the birthday of  
Elaine Osorio  
Rosalie Campisi  
In memory of Lucille Freitas  
Eva Stern  
Speedy recovery wishes for  
Don Arnaudo  
Lorraine and Mike Nunziata  
In honor of the birthday of  
Marie Antonowicz  
Joan and Jerry Delfino  
Get well wishes for Ed Bertaccini  
Bob and Elaine Osorio  
Thank you to Ms. Love  
Bob and Elaine Osorio  
In memory of Ralph Del Prete  
Officers/Members of Br. 403  
In memory of Ralph Del Prete  
Bob and Elaine Osorio  
Get well wishes for Russ Vento  
Eva Stern  
Speedy recovery wishes for  
Ed Bertaccini  
Eva Stern  
Speedy recovery wishes for  
Russ Vento  
Joan and Jerry Delfino  
Get well wishes for Russ Vento

## Welcome to Our New Members! (as of 10/14/18)

Anne Godch	Branch 010	Charles B Couch	Branch 214
James Godch	Branch 010	Roland Galvan	Branch 214
Aidan Olson	Branch 010	Yolanda Galvan	Branch 214
Carlos Olson	Branch 010	Christine Grobbel	Branch 214
Desiree Olson	Branch 010	Robert R Rigor	Branch 214
Liam Olson	Branch 010	Sandra E Rigor	Branch 214
Luke Olson	Branch 010	Tom Storelli	Branch 214
Deanna Hoenick	Branch 028	Bill Evans	Branch 218
Lawrence J Brown	Branch 039	Rose Martinez	Branch 291
Rita M Brown	Branch 039	Karen K Lippi	Branch 332
Moniquea D Moore	Branch 039	Tom D Lippi	Branch 332
Lee E Bennett	Branch 045	Gary Oefinger	Branch 332
Shirley Pasquini-Bennett	Branch 045	Teresa Oefinger	Branch 332
Kathy Adams	Branch 052	Ava M Gonnella	Branch 342
Rick Adams	Branch 052	Benjamin A Gonnella	Branch 342
Doreen Brinkman	Branch 052	Clara J Gonnella	Branch 342
Andrew Damato	Branch 115	Gianna L Gonnella	Branch 342
Anne M Anderson	Branch 145	Madelyn R Gonnella	Branch 342
John De Marco	Branch 179	Nick M Gonnella	Branch 342
Linda De Marco	Branch 179	Rebecca D Gonnella	Branch 342
Anna Onorato	Branch 191	Margie Favro	Branch 352
Domenic Onorato	Branch 191	Jeannette A Vanbibber	Branch 352
Gianluca Onorato	Branch 191	Nancy Di Prima	Branch 380
Isabella Onorato	Branch 191	Connie L Sabatino	Branch 380
Francisco Bellez	Branch 214	Liam Swist	Branch 380
Jin Bellez	Branch 214	Kenny F Pombo	Branch 390
Caryn E Borba	Branch 214	Michael Hynes	Branch 438
Ronald E Borba	Branch 214	Nancy Hynes	Branch 438
Nicholas G Coker	Branch 214	Myrna L Sperl	Branch 442
Paula M Coker	Branch 214		

## 2018-2019 Central Council Officers and Members

<b>OFFICERS:</b>	Steven Fuentes*, Br. 327
Grand President	Roselynn Jarrett*, Br. 72
Andrew Pappani* (Siria), Br. 28	Kenneth Marshall (Elizabeth), Br. 103
Grand 1st Vice President	Frank Re (Valerie), Br. 139
Vincent Piro (Robyn), Br. 39	Leonard Rossi, O.L.J.* (Karen), Br. 343
Grand 2nd Vice President	<b>LIFE MEMBERS EMERITUS:</b>
Deborah Rodondi, Br. 19	Robert Acquistapace (Kathy), Br. 198
Grand Secretary	Jody Balestrieri, Br. 229
Lauren Kilcullen, Br. 52	Michael Cannady (Donna), Br. 154
Grand Treasurer	Nettie Descalso-Del Nero, Br. 39
Denise Antonowicz, Br. 184	Robert Dianda, K.S.G. (Theresa), Br. 91
Grand Parliamentarian	James Jones (Janice), Br. 191
Mike Rossi, O.L.J.* (Marcie), Br. 39	Carmen Kilcullen (Larry), Br. 52
Grand Trustee	Nina Malone, Br. 342
Dante Galeazzi* (Julie), Br. 139	Vincent Picciola (Diane), Br. 358
Grand Trustee	Leroy Taddei (Stella), Br. 343
Franklyn Lopes, Jr., Br. 227	<b>MEMBERS EMERITUS:</b>
Grand Trustee	Gerald Delfino (Joan), Br. 368
Patricia Mages (Louis), Br. 380	Maria Di Paolo, Br. 379
Grand Sentinel	Frances Foglia-Teglia, Br. 19
Teresa Helfand (Cory), Br. 392	Marco Galeazzi (Diane), Br. 139
Past Grand President	Angelina Iarossi-Armenio (Tony), Br. 218
Leonard Zasoski, Jr.* (Betty), Br. 281	Forrest Price (Prudence), Br. 261
Spiritual Director	Louisa Russo, Br. 210
Rev. Msgr. Daniel Cardelli, Br. 352	Joseph Santello (Catherine), Br. 358
<b>CENTRAL COUNCIL MEMBERS:</b>	Frank Signorelli, Br. 291
Robert Basuino*, Br. 191	Helen Tatone, Br. 443
David Botta* (Pat), Br. 14	Chris Valentini (Elizabeth), Br. 14
Lisa Crudo, Br. 343	
Jane Dianda*, Br. 91	
	*denotes life member
	(Revised 9/18)

## October Calendar Winners

Day	Name	Br	City	Amount
10/1	Carole Gruss		Napa, CA	\$30
10/2	Kay Lopez	70	Sanger, CA	\$30
10/3	Joe Oscars		Bakersfield, CA	\$30
10/4	Sandra Debrichy	214	Concord, CA	\$30
10/5	Carolyn Robertson		Vacaville, CA	\$30
10/6	Maureen Venturini		Modesto, CA	\$30
10/7	Vicki Christophe	154	Citrus Heights, CA	\$30
10/8	Pat Taormino	191	San Jose, CA	\$100
10/9	C.T. Anthony	261	San Diego, CA	\$30
10/10	Branch 281		Bakersfield, CA	\$30
10/11	Sophia San Julian		Modesto, CA	\$30
10/12	John Shimshock		Coon Rapids, MN	\$30
10/13	Branch 45		Sacramento, CA	\$30
10/14	Jeffrey Burns	91	Alameda, CA	\$30
10/15	Lorraine Muglie		Glenolden, PA	\$30
10/16	Mercedes & Ryan Imoden		Santa Rosa, CA	\$30
10/17	Ricky Wyatt		Gardena, CA	\$30
10/18	Rosemary & Paul Cook	13	Martinez, CA	\$30
10/19	Susan Guarinello		Brooklyn, NY	\$30
10/20	Renee Perkins	308	Fresno, CA	\$30
10/21	Maryellen Mazzei	39	Merced, CA	\$30
10/22	Mary Lou Terramagra		San Diego, CA	\$50
10/23	Carmen Locatelli	21	Capitola, CA	\$30
10/24	Rose Anne Nava		San Francisco, CA	\$30
10/25	Gerald Delfino	368	San Jose, CA	\$30
10/26	Julie Marchini	39	Le Grand, CA	\$30
10/27	Margaret Speranza	343	Castro Valley, CA	\$30
10/28	Alfio & Gerry Crema	391	San Jose, CA	\$30
10/29	Sylvia Romero	354	Paso Robles, CA	\$30
10/30	Fr. Johnson Abraham	214	Concord, CA	\$30
10/31	Michael Federico	354	Paso Robles, CA	\$50



**Interested in learning more about the ICF's National Charity, Cooley's Anemia (Thalassemia)?**  
 If so, Laurice Levine, Thalassemia Program Consultant for Children's Hospital Los Angeles, would be honored to come and speak at one of your branch meetings or any special event.

**Contact Information:**

(360) 860-2023 or [LLevine430@aol.com](mailto:LLevine430@aol.com)

It does not matter how small or how large your branch is, the goal is to educate everyone on Cooley's Anemia and the great work the ICF does for this cause.

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## Bishops' Days

Nov. 4th	San Diego
Nov. 11th	LA Archdiocese
Dec. 9th	Reno
Jan. 19th	Tucson
Feb. 23rd	Orange
Apr. 28th	San Francisco, San Mateo & Marin
Jun. 23rd	Stockton

## District Installations

Jan. 5th	Santa Clara Valley
Jan. 6th	Stockton
Jan. 19th	Tucson
Jan. 20th	East Bay
Jan. 27th	LA Archdiocese San Diego
Feb. 23rd	Central Coast Orange

# Remembering Monsignor James J. Loughnane, P.A.

**Pamela-Anne Roemer**  
Br. 317, Diamond Bar, CA

Msgr James Loughnane of St. Denis in Diamond Bar, passed away on Sept 17, 2018. Msgr has been our Pastor since 1993. He was a very caring man. He is going to be extremely missed by all.

James Joseph Loughnane was the oldest of thirteen children born to Michael and Bridget (Cummins) Loughnane in Monivea County Galway, Ireland. His family operated a carpentry and joinery business established in 1786 that goes back at least five generations. At age five, Jim headed off for the local school, which led him to St. Jarlath's College, Tuam, County Galway and eventually to All Hallows Seminary in Dublin. He was ordained with thirty-seven classmates on June 18, 1961. Six weeks later he arrived in Los Angeles with three classmates to begin ministry in this Archdiocese, beginning at St. John the



St. Denis Church, Diamond Bar, CA

Baptist de la Salle, Granada Hills.

Fr. Jim was transferred to St. Cornelius in Long Beach. There was no Open Placement process, just a letter of appointment and one week to report for duty.

In March 1971, a young and growing community emerged and he moved to St. Bonaventure, Huntington Beach. In 1975, Fr. Loughnane was transferred back to Long Beach; to St. Barnabas. In 1976, he was appointed Judge in the Archdiocesan Matrimonial Tribunal and became a member of the Canon Law Society of America. He became the administrator of St. Joseph the Worker Parish, Canoga Park in 1981 where he became the pastor, a position he held until March 1993. In June 1988, Fr. Loughnane was appointed Domestic Prelate to His Holiness Pope John Paul II and given the title Monsignor.

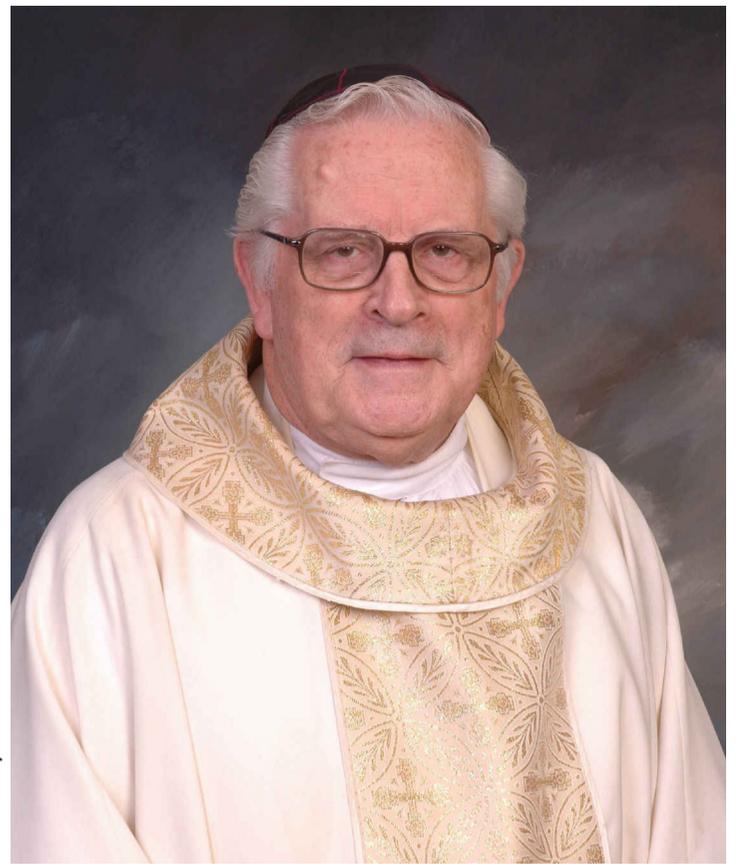
In 1993, Cardinal Roger Mahony asked him to pastor the growing community of St. Denis, Diamond Bar, upon the retirement of the founding pastor, Fr. Donald Potthoff. Monsignor Jim lovingly called Diamond Bar his home and did not think of retiring. He continued to serve our parish until his passing on September 17, 2018.

Msgr. Jim was always there for his brother priests all over the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. He took his duty seriously, loved his parishioners, and worked tirelessly for many Archdiocesan Boards and Committees. He was the Deanery representative of the Priests' Council, Vicar Forane (Dean) of Deanery 12, Board of Consultants, Young Adult Advisory Board, PACE (Pastor Advisory Committee on Educa-

tion) and the Catholic School Board.

He served as a member of the original Committee for the "Together in Mission" Annual Appeal. Msgr. Jim also worked with the San Fernando Valley Interfaith Council and other Ecumenical programs. He was a member of Our Lady of the Angels Cathedral Advisory Committee and a member of the Finance Sub-Committee for the Cathedral. He is a Fourth Degree Knight of Columbus and a Knight of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem. For six terms he served as Chairman of the Clergy Personnel Board. Cardinal Roger Mahony wrote "This confidence placed in you by your brother priests is the highest recognition of your many gifts and talents." (letter to Msgr. Jim on the occasion of his Golden Jubilee, June 18, 2011)

In 2003, Msgr. Jim mirrored Cardinal Roger Mahony's Pastor's Leadership Award where he asked our parishioners to help identify individuals that have made a significant impact in our Community. March



Msgr. James J. Loughnane, P.A., passed away on Sept 17, 2018

2, 2019 marks our 17th Annual event.

In November 2005, Pope Benedict XVI honored him with the title Protonotary Apostolic, the highest order of Monsignor outside of Rome.

In January 4, 2012, Msgr. Jim was appointed by Archbishop Jose Gomez as the Episcopal Vicar of the San Gabriel Pastoral Region, he held this position until September 2015. Bishop Joseph Sartoris

*Continued on Page 8*

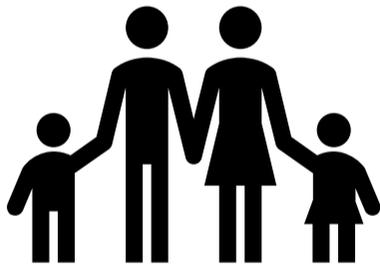
## Planning for Success with Membership Recruitment and Retention

**Pat Mages**  
Membership Chair

Greetings from the Membership Committee. Once again at this time of year, our branches are electing new officers for the coming year. With these elections come the anticipation of a successful new year including membership growth. Not only does growth mean new members, but keeping current members feeling committed, welcomed and appreciated by the other branch members. These two dynamics, Recruitment and Retention, are the foundation of any strong organization. These terms have been mentioned a lot in the past several years. It is the goal and hope of this committee to continue to assist the branches in achieving this goal.

With that in mind, right about now, new branch officers may be thinking about plans for next year's meetings. If you are looking for example meeting themes, see below for some ideas to get you started.

You might consider adding dinner or refreshments to your monthly meetings. Whether it's a potluck, member-cooked meal or catered, good food helps make for a fun event. Also, consider simple decora-



tions that can be re-used every year to create a welcoming environment.

Example meeting themes:

- **January:** New Year's Party and Live Auction Night - members bring items for auction table. A Night of Magic or Comedy - invite local magician or members bring in favorite jokes.
- **February:** Carnevale presentation showing best costumes in Venice and history of Carnevale. "Love Your Neighbor" - invite a few local charities to talk about how they help others.
- **March:** Easter Service Project - members prepare Easter baskets for needy children. Genealogy Speaker - invite volunteer from local library or college to present.
- **April:** A Night at the Opera - contact

local opera group to present about Italian Opera. Celebrating our Heritages - invite members to bring in items/food representing their culture.

- **May:** Honoring our Saints - speaker or movie on a saint, pray Rosary together. Cinco de Mayo - invite ballet folklorico dancers or high school mariachi band to perform.
- **June:** Old-Fashioned Picnic - meet at local park, barbecue, and games for the kids. Sports Night - jerseys, and sports trivia, show video of sports bloopers.
- **July:** Summer Break
- **August:** Restaurant Night - members meet at a local restaurant that donates a percent back to branch. Back to School - members bring supplies for parish school, invite Principal to talk about school.
- **September:** Vocations Awareness - invite parish priest, deacon or sister to talk about their vocation. Music Appreciation - invite parish or school choir to perform.
- **October:** Italian Heritage Month - guest speaker on Italy or Italian en-

tainment. HalloWine - members bring a bottle of wine for tasting table, speaker on wine-making.

- **November:** Happy Thanks & Giving - members share things they're thankful for, bring donated canned goods. Veteran's Day Recognition - honor members who have served and they can share their experience.
- **December:** Christmas Party - Church choir singing carols, crafts for children, visit from Santa.

You can find additional ideas in the Members' Area of the ICF website (<https://www.icf.org/membership/members/>) under the Membership Growth section, and of course from the monthly branch articles found in the Bollettino. The articles are a great resource for finding out what works in other branches.

Your monthly meeting is an opportunity to impress your members and guests. If they have a great experience, they may decide to return and spread the word to others.

May you have a Blessed and Bountiful Thanksgiving, and great success in 2019!

## Family Recipes

**Deborah Rodondi**  
Grand 2nd Vice President



It is already that time of the year preparing for the holiday season. For me, that means baking all my specialty cookies. One of my (and my mom's) favorites is the ginger snap. This recipe came from

my maternal grandmother's sister Virginia Bonalanza and her good friend Val Grasso, who was a member of Branch 7 in South San Francisco. This year at the San Mateo District Chaplains Night you will find these cookies on the dessert platter. Hope you enjoy them!

### Ginger Cookies

- 2/3 cup vegetable oil
- 1 egg
- 2 cups flour
- 1 cup sugar
- 4 Tbsp. molasses
- 2 tsp. baking soda
- 1 tsp. ginger (maybe a little more)
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- I also add at least 1 Tbls. crystallized ginger minced
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/4 cup sugar (for dipping cookie dough)

Mix oil and sugar thoroughly. Add egg and beat well. Stir in molasses. Sift dry ingredients together and add to mixture. Drop teaspoonfuls of dough (dime to nickel size) into sugar and roll into balls. Place on ungreased cookie sheet 3 inches apart. Bake in 325 to 350 degree oven for 15 minutes. Do not overbake.

NOTE: The crystallized ginger really gives a punch to these cookies. I buy mine at the local Asian grocery store. It will also last a few years in a cool place properly sealed. The crystallized ginger gives the cookie that element of surprise when you bite into it.

If you recall, I make my cookies on the small size. When you are making a variety of cookies everyone likes to sample all of them, so by making them on the small size it affords the opportunity to try several.

Hoping you might like to share some of your specialties or the family recipes that

have been handed down with the members of the ICF.

Send them to me at [drodondi@icf.org](mailto:drodondi@icf.org) or mail to the ICF office. Include a story if any. If you have questions, send them also. I may not be able to answer them but we can put them out there for our readers and maybe find what you are looking for.

*Buon Appetito!*

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## Literature Review: Reno's Italian-American Culture

**Vince Piro**  
Grand 1st Vice President

Earlier this month, my wife and I travelled to Reno for their annual Great Italian Festival. It was full of great food, music, and ICF members. It reminded me that in the past I had reviewed some interesting pieces on Italian-American culture in Reno. Here is a reprint of that article.

I found some very interesting resources about the Italian immigrants and their families that helped develop the city of Reno and surrounding areas. Italian Americans were and are hard working, industrious, and entrepreneurial, contributing much to Northwest Nevada.

**"Reno's Italian Americans"**  
Online Nevada Encyclopedia  
Andrew Gerthoffer (contributor)

Andrew Gerthoffer gives a very thorough overview of Italian immigrants and their descendants in his article for the Online Nevada Encyclopedia. Italian Americans have had a presence in the Reno area for over 150 years. Attracted to a climate



similar to that of northern Italy, plentiful jobs and land, Italians originally immigrated to the area and worked developing the Transcontinental Railroad; however, they quickly began working in shops, on ranches, and at lumber yards. Most were single men living in boarding houses. However, over time, chain migration created a more vibrant Italian American community with families and friends living "in distinctive ethnic neighborhoods." Basically, "Three major Italian areas developed in the Truckee Meadows starting in the late nineteenth and continuing throughout the twentieth century." These neighborhoods were distinguished by class and social differences,

representing different levels of achievement. One interesting fact is that Italian Americans became noted for building Craftsman style homes. Italian Americans in the area preferred this style of home "because of its efficient use of lot space, its simple design and construction, and the inexpensive nature of the required building materials." Often, neighbors would share house plans, saving on the cost of having to purchase their own plans. As Italian Americans prospered they began to own some of the more popular businesses in town, including "The Eldorado Hotel and Casino, the Mizpah Hotel, the Sportsman, First National Bank of Nevada, and Pioneer Citizens Bank." And these Italian-owned businesses employed other Italians. The Dainty Cake Shop and Pinky's Market were among the most famous Italian-owned and Italian run businesses in town. Besides their influence on businesses in

the area, Italian Americans also influenced the leisure time activities of the area, with wine making, vegetable gardening, and, of course, bocce ball competitions. According to Gerthoffer, Italians and their descendants have had a significant and unique impact on Reno and the surrounding area. You can find Gerthoffer's article at [http://www.onlinenevada.org/reno\\_s\\_italian\\_americans](http://www.onlinenevada.org/reno_s_italian_americans).

**"The American Dream, Reno's Little Italy in Powning Addition"**  
Historic Reno Preservation Society  
Felvia Belaustegui

Felvia Belaustegui has done much to preserve the history of Italian Americans in Reno. As part of her studies, she has written a masters thesis on the subject, The Evolution of an Ethnic Community-Immigration of Italians to Reno, contributed articles on the subject to various magazines, and served as president of the Historic



Reno Preservation Society. Her article "The American Dream, Reno's Little Italy in Powning Addition" appears online and features different Italian Americans from this district in Reno. In this article, she profiles several Italian American families, such as the Pizorno family. Among the accomplishments of the family, she notes that "Virginia Pizorno and another sister, Mary Romano, were two of the first Italian immigrant women to have a successful business in the downtown area of Reno, the Dainty Cake Bakery." She also writes about Andrew Ginocchio and his family, founders and owners of Reno Ironworks, and Devincenzi, the first Italian to work as police officer for the city. "He eventually purchased Eddie Floral Shop . . ." buying special seeds from Holland and other European countries to sell to Italian farmers in the area. An interesting character is "Antonio Minetto, who came to Reno in 1902 and resided on Winter Street, became a 'marriage broker.' His marriage brokering started because he had several poor nieces in Urbe, Italy who needed husbands. He would look over prospective grooms and then send for one of his

nieces." Belaustegui notes that these and other Italian Americans worked hard and represent the achievement of the American dream. You can find Belaustegui's article at <http://www.historicreno.org/index.php/footprints/featured-articles/85-the-american-dream-renos-little-italy-in-pownings-addition>.

**Oral History Program**  
University of Nevada

The Oral History Program of the University of Nevada features interviews with many Italian Americans, including some prominent ICF members. These Italian Americans, including Robert Capurro, recount their experiences during World War II and other times. Robert was born in Reno into an Italian-American family and was a young boy during World War II. During a 2005 interview, he remembers, "In Reno I don't think the restrictions on Italian-Americans during the war were very stringent . . . We were non-strategic here. I mean, there was nothing we could do to either help or hinder the war effort, and we lived our own lives, so there were

*Continued on Page 8*

# Order Your New ICF Brochures

A beautiful new ICF brochure is available now for use by all branches. This is a great marketing tool to distribute to guests at monthly membership meetings, information tables at branch events, and for membership drives. On the inside of the brochure, there is a reserved area to place your branch contact information. Please contact the ICF Office at (888) ICF-1924 to have brochures sent to your branch.



## Literature Review

Continued from Page 7

no restrictions that I know of." Other Italian Americans recount different experiences and events during the early part of the 20th century. This is a wonderful site to read about and listen to Italian Americans from the Reno area. You can search the University of Nevada, Reno oral history site at <http://oralhistory.unr.edu>.

These online articles and interviews are good places to start learning about the Italian Americans of Reno. Italian Americans contributed much to the settlement and development of the Reno area.

**Additional Resources:** You can further explore Italian Americans in Reno with the following resources.

- *The Italian-American Experience in Northwestern Nevada, from Territorial Days to the Present.* Ed. Kathleen Coles and Kara Geiger and Mary Larson and Christopher Warner. Reno: University of Nevada Oral History Program, 2006.
- Albin J. Cofone. "Reno's Little Italy: Italian Entrepreneurship and Culture in Northern Nevada." *Nevada Historical Society Quarterly*. Vol. 26: Summer. Reno: Nevada Historical Society, 1983: 97-110.
- Felvia Belaustegui. *The Evolution of an Ethnic Community-Immigration of Italians to Reno*. MS thesis. University of Nevada, Reno, 2000.
- Felvia Belaustegui. *The Italian-American Experience in Northwestern Nevada, from Territorial Days to the Present: As Remembered, Recounted, and Retold in Oral Histories*. University of Nevada, Reno, 2006.
- Claudene Wharton. "Explore Reno's Little Italy – did you know we had one?" *Nevada Today*. University of Nevada, Reno. 2010. <http://www.unr.edu/nevada-today/news/2010/explore-renos-little-italy>

## Msgr. Loughnane

Continued from Page 6

wrote, "that I can think of no other priest in the Archdiocese who is as widely respected and admired in the Archdiocese as is Msgr. Jim." (letter to Msgr. Jim on the occasion of his Golden Jubilee, June 18, 2011)

From his nephew and niece, Vince and Deirdre, here in Southern California he was always a loving and fun Uncle Jim, "UJ" as they called him. He always made the special trips to every part of the world to celebrate First Communions, Confirmations, Graduations, Marriages and all of their milestones at a moment's notice. "Uncle Jim" was a smart man with a very strong work ethic.

He didn't go out of his way to be liked, he was too shy and reserved for that. Instead, he rolled up his sleeves, took on the difficult jobs without fanfare, and people came to love him over time.

We were very fortunate to have him in our lives. He is survived by four brothers and three sisters, their spouses, 17 nieces and nephews, and 25 grandnieces and grand-nephews.

With the hopes of accommodating the growing needs for the many ministries and organizations at St. Denis, Msgr. Jim was in the midst of realizing the building of a new parish center. The Building on Faith Campaign is near and dear to his heart and gives witness to his faith in God's providence and the St. Denis Community's response to the call.

Msgr. Jim's parish family at St. Denis and the Loughnane families will miss him dearly.

We will remember him as a man, a brother priest, an uncle, and friend who humbly served Jesus, our Church, and our Archdiocese.

May God Love You Msgr. Jim.

# Zona Divertimento

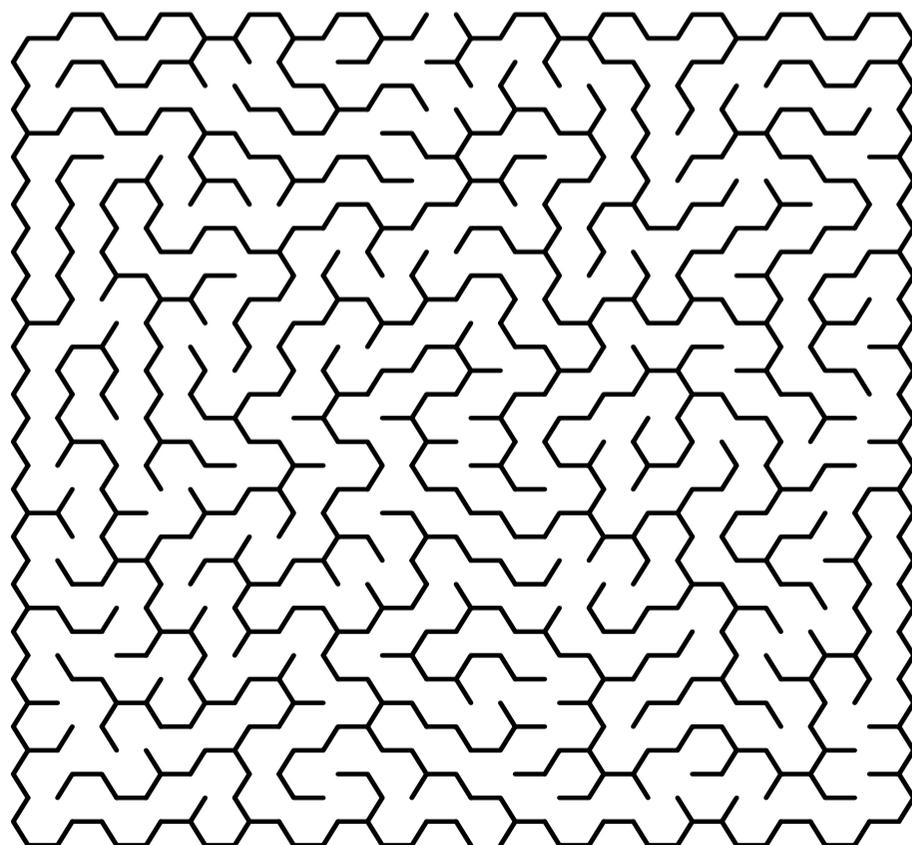
## 20 Regions of Italy Word Search

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| BASILICATA            | PIEMONTE            |
| CALABRIA              | PUGLIA              |
| CAMPANIA              | SARDEGNA            |
| EMILIA-ROMAGNA        | SICILIA             |
| FRIULI-VENEZIA GIULIA | TOSCANA             |
| LAZIO                 | TRENTINO-ALTO ADIGE |
| LIGURIA               | UMBRIA              |
| LOMBARDIA             | VALLE D'AOSTA       |
| MARCHE                | VENETO              |

Source: [puzzlemaker.discoveryeducation.com](http://puzzlemaker.discoveryeducation.com)

## Maze



Source: [www.mazegenerator.net](http://www.mazegenerator.net)

# In Thanksgiving for Blood

**Laurice Levine**  
**Live to Give Committee**

*"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted." ~Aesop*

Gratitude is an important part of our daily lives, however during this season of gratitude it is especially important to give thanks. The ICF Live to Give Committee would like to say "Thank You" to the ICF Members and friends who have donated blood during our annual convention blood drives. The following are numbers from our 7 blood drives:

- 2012:** 21 donors showed up,  
26 units collected
- 2013:** 26 donors showed up,  
23 units collected
- 2014:** 31 donors showed up,  
25 units collected
- 2015:** 31 donors showed up,  
25 units collected
- 2016:** 34 donors showed up,  
29 units collected
- 2017:** 38 donors showed up,  
37 units collected
- 2018:** 41 donors showed up,  
37 units collected

A total of 222 people have shown up to donate blood and 202 units of blood have been collected. You may be wondering why there is a discrepancy in these numbers. When a person shows up to donate blood, despite their best intentions, they

may be turned away. Reasons for being deferred could be that the person has high blood pressure or has traveled to a specific country, such as Africa, where malaria is prevalent. Alternatively, other people are able to give two units of blood at one time.

Did you know that three patients can benefit from a single donation? When blood is donated it can be divided into three parts as follows:

- 1. Red Blood Cells** give the body energy by carrying oxygen to all parts of the body. They are needed most for patients who have significant blood loss from trauma, who are undergoing or have a hemoglobinopathy such as Cooley's Anemia.
- 2. Platelets** are essential for blood clotting and with a shelf life of only five days, are routinely needed to support cancer therapy. People who are undergoing bone marrow transplants or having an organ transplant also require platelets.
- 3. Plasma** is the liquid portion of the blood and is used to treat patients in

shock and those with severe burns and clotting disorders.

202 units of blood have been collected at the ICF convention blood drives which means 606 lives have been saved due to ICF's efforts.

The ICF Live to Give Committee would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to ICF blood donors who have selflessly given the gift of life.



Grand President Andy Pappani was one of 41 donors who showed up at the 2018 convention blood drive

## Interested in Planning a Blood Drive?

Please contact:

Franklyn Lopes, Jr.  
Central Council Member/  
Live to Give Committee Chair  
[FLopes@icf.org](mailto:FLopes@icf.org)

or

Laurice Levine  
Medical Consultant/  
Live to Give Committee Member  
[LLevine430@aol.com](mailto:LLevine430@aol.com)

## Have You Purchased Your 2019 ICF Calendar Yet?



### Reasons to Consider Buying an ICF Calendar:

- This calendar is an annual project of the Ways and Means Committee and provides funding for many ICF programs throughout the year.
- The theme for 2019 is "Festas Around the World," with fun and informative descriptions and photos of each festa, and recipes provided each month.
- They make great gifts and great raffle prizes.
- Calendars are only \$25, and branches get to keep \$5 from every calendar sold.
- There is a prize drawing for every day each month and the individual or branch whose name is drawn wins between \$30 to \$100, making 365 winners for the year. The name drawn goes back in the drawing immediately for the next day.
- Over 4,100 people have won since this effort began, with a grand total of \$12,400 to be awarded in 2019 alone.

**At your next general meeting, please talk to one of your branch officers to learn more!**

# Chicago

**River Forest  
St. Vincent Ferrer, Br. 358**

Fall is a busy time for us at Branch 358. On October 14th we held our annual bake sale in the vestibule of St. Vincent Ferrer. Parishioners were offered a wide variety of Italian delicacies, fall favorites, and all-American favorites. Proceeds from our bake sale will fund our St. Joseph Table next March. Proceeds from the St. Joseph Table will be distributed to charities in our community.

After the sale, we adjourned to the Cabrini Room for our monthly meeting with lunch served by our very own favorite caterer, Linda Calabrese of A-Theme Catering, with help from her husband, Paul.

On November 18 we will celebrate our Mother Cabrini Mass at Casa Italia and on November 20 we will have our annual Mass for our deceased members.

Thanksgiving will be here before we know it. We have so much to be thankful for living in AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL. Let us not forget those who need our prayers: the sick, poor, aged, hungry, alone and homeless, and victims of disasters.

Remember our military men and women who are in foreign lands, this Thanksgiving, to keep us safe in the land of the free and the home of the brave. Say a prayer and be thankful for veterans who served in previous wars and were lucky enough to return; and for those who didn't return or returned with physical and mental scars.

November Birthdays

Nov 11 - John Corcoran

Nov 8 - Elaine Dato

Nov 16 - Sam Occhipinti

Nov 22 - Yours Truly, Barbara Capozzoli

*HAPPY THANKSGIVING AND GOD  
BLESS US ALL!*

**Itasca  
St. Peter the Apostle, Br. 418**



Br. 418 proudly joins procession for Maria S.S. Della Croce di Triggiano's annual celebration for their patron saint



Br. 418's newest member, Corey Helfand!



Br. 27 new members Steven and Lori Combs and President Jim Cavallero

## Fresno

**Madera  
Santissimo Crocifisso, Br. 27**

The meeting in September was held on the 11th and President Jim Cavallero provided a special tribute to the victims of 9/11. The dinner included hamburgers with all the fixins', potato salad, beans, chips and fresh fruit for dessert. Many thanks to members Marcia and Jennifer Valorosi for donating the tomatoes, onions and watermelon. Thanks to the September committee, chairmen: Jim and Kerin Cavallero and the committee: Mary and Mike Keitz (thanks Mike for barbequing all those burgers), and Celeste Voyles. New members Steven and Lori Combs were sworn in during the meeting. Let's give a great big ICF welcome to them and to Louis and Rosemary Janis who transferred from Branch 191.

The annual Harvest Festival was held on the 21st & 22nd of September and Branch 27 held their traditional salami spin. The event was well-attended and we almost ran out of salami as everyone who stopped by tried to win. All money raised was given back to Saint Joachim Church. The next meeting is the November dinner on the 13th.

Other upcoming events are the Christmas Party on December 9th and a fun day at Good Company Players in January to see "Mama Mia." The date is TBD. Looking forward to seeing all of you there.

Please continue to pray for our ill and injured members. Please say a special prayer for Theresa DeFrank on the death of her sister and Frank Brunolli on the death of his sister.

*Ciao,  
Kerin Cavallero*

**Fresno  
Our Lady of Victory, Br. 32**

Look for membership renewal envelopes which will be going out in December. This is an opportunity to take advantage of the open enrollment for hospitalization. The ICF hospitalization plan is open to any member, including those members who are over 70. The cost is \$25 for the year.

After our meeting in September, we played the candy bar game. We had 5 minutes to take turns rolling the dice. If you rolled doubles, you won a candy bar or you could steal from other players who had already won. It was exciting and fun.

This year's scholarships were awarded to Jonelle Gilardi from Los Banos (\$500 second year, who is attending Chico State University) and Brandon Volpa from Fresno (\$600 third year, who is attending UC Irvine). Congratulations to them.

October 28 was Bishop's Day which was held at St. Anne's Chapel. Following the Mass there was a luncheon in which the Bishop was presented with a spiritual bouquet and monetary donations for his seminarian endowment fund.

Hope to see you at our next meeting. Reminder, our meetings have moved to the 4th Wednesday of each month.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

*Paulette Volpa, Financial Secretary*

**Bakersfield  
San Luigi, Br. 33**

Branch 33, Bakersfield, celebrated Columbus Day with an authentic Italian dinner prepared by members Maria Bertolucci Steele and Michael Brancato. The slate of officers was presented and approved for 2019.

Joining together with Branch 281, we enjoyed a great evening of "horse racing" with the fundraiser "Nite at the Races." Participants could purchase a horse, pick fun names for the stables and jockey, and bet on their favorites that evening. All this,

and a delicious dinner as well.

November is the month to vote on our Christmas project, which has in the past been donations of socks and sweatshirts to our local St. Vincent de Paul.

Blessed Thanksgiving wishes to our fellow Branches!

**Merced  
St. Cecilia, Br. 39**

At our September meeting, first-time delegate Sr. Rachel described her experience at the convention. Our own Vince Piro was elected to the Central Council as First Vice President. Congratulations Vince! Thank you for all the time, hard work and dedication you put in to our worthwhile organization. We initiated several new members.

At our November meeting we enjoyed a delicious Thanksgiving feast thanks to Maryellen Mazzei and her kitchen crew. Our 2019 elected officers are: president-Terrie Rhodes; 1st vice-Michael Belluomini; 2nd vice-Chris Martin; recording secretary-Sandy Del Real; financial secretary-Robyn Piro; treasurer-Stephanie Lucich; trustees-Anne Marie Bandoni, Pattie Simas and Gina Pugliese; Sentinel-Carol Salmeri; and Chaplain-Sr. Rachel.

Congratulations to Elmer Lorenzi on being honored at the recent Catholic Charities banquet, recognizing his immeasurable contributions to our community and local charity.

Join us in December for our joint Christmas party with the Lodge members. Details to follow in our newsletter.

There are still a few *Grazie America! From Italy to Merced County* books available to buy at the Courthouse Museum.

Pray for a full recovery for Carol Salmeri who had recent knee surgery and for Blanche Unti who had hip replacement surgery. And pray for the family of long-time member Ray Giampaoli who passed away recently.

The 2019 ICF calendars are hot off the press and ready for purchasing.

Goditi il fresco clima autunnale. Enjoy the cool autumn weather.

*Stephanie Lucich*

**Gustine  
Our Lady of Pettoruto, Br. 54**

Greetings from Branch 54 in Gustine. We hope this article finds everyone well. Branch 54 was represented recently in the local high school homecoming parade. President Diane Rebelo is pictured along-



side the car all decked out in Gustine Reds spirit. Our branch enjoys getting involved in the community and participating in local events. With the Christmas season fast approaching, you might see ICF members out and about more often. Keep your eyes open. Until next time remember to keep love in your hearts, spread the kindness, and do as Jesus would have done.

*Ciao!*  
*Regina Chavez*

### **Clovis** **Our Lady of Perpetual Help,** **Br. 250**

These Fall days have been busy for our Branch. In September we sold over 300 meatball sandwiches at the annual Church festival; the first of this month we had a nice turn-out for our quarterly Mass for our living and deceased members; October 28 is the Bishop's Seminary Burse with Mass and dinner; and now we're gearing up for our annual Rigatoni Dinner November 11.

Flora DePasquale, Jennie Campopiano, Isabel Ronzano and Betty Massa danced the Tarantella at the Monrovia Winery in September.

The Ronzano family had a Musto/Ronzano reunion before the St. Elia Celebration in September.

Shirley Mitchell returned from her trip to the British Isles. She visited many castles and islands. She said that Scotland was very beautiful.

Flora DePasquale is a proud great grandmother. Captain Joseph and Bernice DeLuca gave birth to a boy in August in North Carolina. Another grandson, Captain Marc DeLuca, is a Chaplain stationed in Afghanistan.

Frank Pimentel is also a proud great grandparent to 10 great grandchildren.

Happy Birthday to: Rachel Bejarano (11/16); Sylvia Dalton (11/24); Cindy Newton (11/5); John Rainaldi (11/2); and Rich Zanarini (11/20).

"Sincerely giving thanks not only helps us recognize our blessings, but it also unlocks the doors of Heaven and helps us feel God's love" (Thomas S. Monson)

Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

*Ciao!*  
*LeAnne Lavagnino*

### **Bakersfield** **Our Lady of Perpetual Help,** **Br. 281**

We hope everyone had a Spooktacular Halloween and are looking forward to the upcoming holidays. Here in Bakersfield, nothing adds a little pep to our step like the cooling weather of fall.

We had pizza at our October meeting. Pizza kind of looks like Pumpkins, right?? The Nite at the Races event moved once again back to October, and it was a huge



Altar at St. Peter's Italian Catholic Church in Los Angeles, home of Br. 67

success, thanks to Chairman Allen Watts and Michael Cerri from Branch 33. The races were exciting, the BBQ was delicious, and we can't forget the wonderful bar stocked with various themed drinks. To everyone who attended, purchased a horse, or both, thank you for your support!

Join us November 4th for our Pancake Breakfast in the Parish Hall - it's a great time to meet someone new! 2019 Daily Raffle Tickets are available - \$25 each and you'll have 365 chances to win your money back. Our next branch meeting will be held November 8th, in which we will enjoy a Thanksgiving-inspired meal followed by some diverting rounds of Turkey bingo. The meeting will be in the parish hall.

Mark your calendars for December 1st for the annual Christmas Party, which is a great follow-up on our focus of faith, family and fun! If you would like to be involved and lend a helping hand at this event, please come to the November meeting and sign up with Kristen Zasoski. It will definitely land you a spot on Santa's "nice" list.

*Baci e abbracci,*  
*Kristen Zasoski*

## **Los Angeles** **Archdiocese**

### **District Council**

The District held officer elections at the quarterly General Meeting, October 27. Congratulations to the newly elected officers and thank you for volunteering your time. The meeting held at the San Antonio Winery was followed by a delicious lunch at the winery.

The next three months are busy months for the District and our members. To make it easier to read I'll itemize the events.

- November 11, 2018, 11:00 am: Annual Bishop's Mass & Luncheon celebrated at St. John's Seminary,

Camarillo. For information call Pat (805) 428-4623.

- December 2, 2018, 12:30 pm: Cabrini Pilgrimage, St. Francis Xavier Church, Burbank. Mass will be outside at the Cabrini Chapel, with lunch in the hall and a special film presentation. Carmelo (626) 372-7812 or cas1819@aol.com.
- December 7, 2018, 7:00 pm: Annual ICF Thalassemia Christmas Party at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. All are welcome to participate. Contact Pat (805) 428-4623.
- January 27, 2019, 11:00 am: District and Branch Officer Installation, St. Peter's Italian Catholic Church, Los Angeles, followed by lunch at Casa Italiana. Contact Pat (805) 428-4623.
- February 23, 2019: District Quarterly General Meeting. Time and Location TBA.

May everyone have a Blessed & Happy Thanksgiving with your family and friends.

*Pat*

### **Los Angeles** **St. Peter, Br. 67**

Branch 67 will continue to work with Saint Peter's Church and reach out to all ICF members, the Italian community and those who are interested in continuing an ICF presence at this beautiful Italian National Church. Interested members are asked to call (626) 372-7812 for membership in or



Br. 108 members participating in Back to the 80's and Holy Family Church Fair events

a position on the Branch 67 Board.

Please spread the word to friends, families and members that the Italian Catholic Federation Branch 67 and Padre Pio Society will attend the 11:00 am (Italian) Mass and join St. Peter parishioners on the fourth Sunday of each month this year.

Please let me know how you can help us keep the future alive for the next generations at Branch 67 in Los Angeles. We are asking for your ideas, prayers and support.

Your help is greatly appreciated.

*Carmelo Sabatella AIA*  
*President Branch 67*

### **South Pasadena** **Holy Family, Br. 108**

Branch Officers wish all members a very happy holiday season with family and friends this Thanksgiving.

Thank you to members who staffed and supported this year's ICF Sausage Booth at the Holy Family Church Fair. The weather was perfect. Parishioners were supportive while enjoying traditional Italian sausages and pasta with bell peppers and onions. Food was sold out again with another successful year.

Please keep our sick members in your prayers, that they may reach a speedy recovery. And to our former branch members who recently have gone to their eternal reward, may they rest in peace.

See you at the Cabrini Chapel on December 2nd and Branch Christmas Party on December 9th!

*Ci vediamo presto!*  
*Carmelo Sabatella*

### **Montebello** **St. Benedict, Br. 111**

Ciao a tutti. Thursday, November 15: General meeting at 6:30pm, St. Augustine House, 200 N. 12th Street in Montebello. We will celebrate Thanksgiving with a potluck dinner and everyone will bring their favorite dishes to share. The branch will provide the main dish and drinks.

Congratulations to members who celebrate their birthdays in November. We will have cake after the meeting!

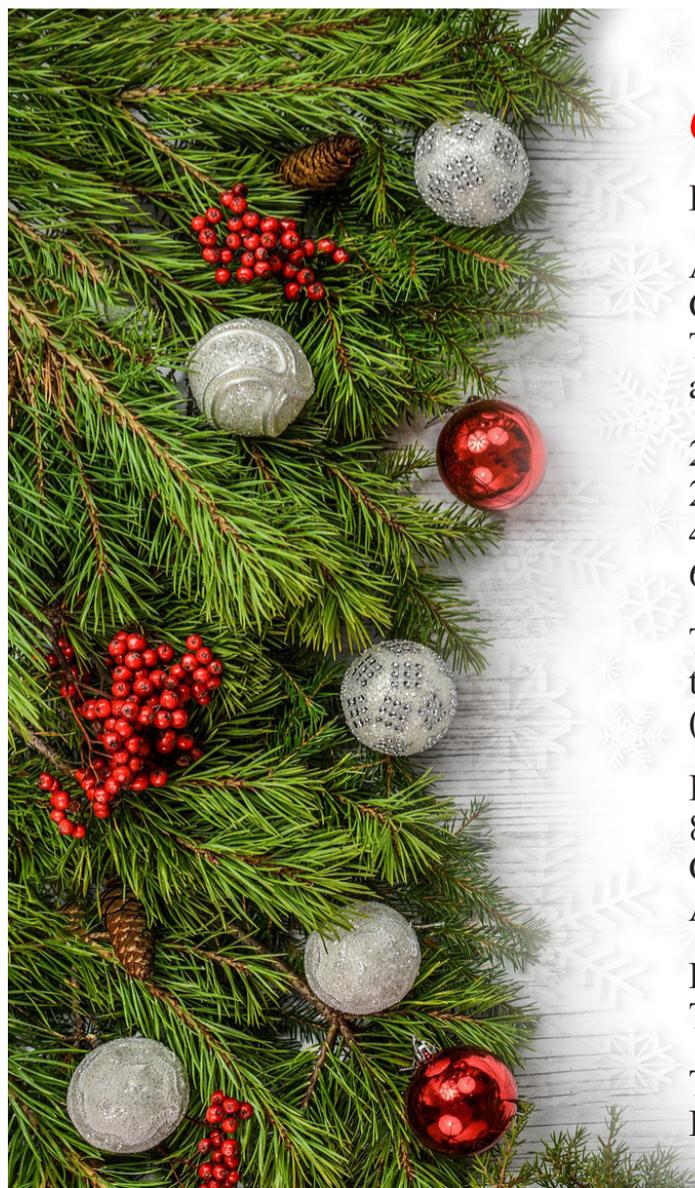
In September we presented a certificate and \$50 gift card to Salvatore Sorce, our Treasurer, in recognition for his dedicated service to Branch 111.

*Continued on Page 14*



From the Entire  
ICF Central Council  
and Office Staff,  
We Wish You A

*Happy  
Thanksgiving!*



## **Christmas Ads for the Bollettino**

Dear Branch President,

As you know, many Individuals, Districts and Branches traditionally place Christmas and New Year's messages in the December issue of the Bollettino. These can be sent in, already designed and sized, or the text may be provided and we will create the design. These are the choices and prices for the ads:

2 1/2" x 2 1/2" (one column square)	\$25
2 1/2" x 5" (vertical or horizontal)	\$35
4" x 5" (horizontal)	\$50
6 1/2" x 5" (horizontal, quarter page)	\$70

To place a message, please send in your ad by e-mail, either finished or just the text you want, size selection, and send your check made out to the I.C.F. (noted Christmas ad), to:

Italian Catholic Federation  
8393 Capwell Drive, Suite 110  
Oakland, CA 94621  
Attn: Bollettino

Please send all ad files electronically to [info@icf.org](mailto:info@icf.org).  
The deadline is November 10th.

Thank you!  
I.C.F. Office

# ABRACADABRA

## Christmas is Magic!



*You Are Cordially Invited To A Magical Celebration...  
The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual*

## Thalassemia Christmas Party

**When:**

Friday, December 7, 2018, 7:00pm-9:00pm

**Where:**

Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA)  
Stauffer Conference Room  
4650 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA. 90027

**RSVP:**

By November 12<sup>th</sup> to

Laurice Levine

[LLevine430@aol.com](mailto:LLevine430@aol.com), or, 360-860-2023

Please let us know the names of everyone in your group and ages of guests age 18 and younger.





Carmelo Divincenzo, Br. 111, Rest in Peace



Br. 111 members pause for a group photo during the branch's picnic



Salvatore Sorce, Br. 111, receives certificate and gift card for service to branch

We are sad to report that our beloved Branch 111 member, Carmelo Divincenzo, passed away on October 7 surrounded by family. Carmelo is the father-in-law of Branch 111 President, Frank Salomone, and father of Crocetta Salomone, Financial Secretary & Correspondence Secretary. Carmelo was recently diagnosed with Acute Leukemia. He was 81 years. He was a wonderful man, always smiling and always ready to help his family and friends and he will be greatly missed. Carmelo is survived by his wife, Filomena, son, Mario, and daughters, Crocetta and Salvatrice, and seven grandchildren; Leonardo, Elisa, Sofia, Luca, Rocco, Daniela, and Giuliana. May he Rest in Peace.

Saturday, December 8: Christmas Dinner & Dance. Music by Duo Domino, with Rita & Marion Marino, a Professional Piano Bar, along with our delicious Italian Buffet dinner. Please plan on joining us and invite your family and friends.

We pray for Carmelo Divincenzo, all our sick members and those in need; keep them in our thoughts and prayers. God Bless.

*A Presto!*  
Frank Salomone  
Branch 111 President

**San Pedro  
St. John Joseph of the Cross,  
Br. 115**

Soon the holiday season will be here! And our branch is as busy as ever!

On Oct 12 many members attended the Heritage Day festivities sponsored by Councilman Joe Buscaino and the City of

LA. All who attended enjoyed a lovely reception after the award ceremony.

At our Oct meeting, President Neal DiLeva announced that Councilman Buscaino introduced a motion proposing a section of San Pedro named Historic Little Italy.

Thanks to Pauline Iacono for filling up our Las Vegas bound bus. On Nov 4 friends and family of ICF enjoyed a two-night stay at the Golden Nugget.

Nov 11 was our Bishop Day Banquet at St. John Seminary. It is a beautiful ceremony led by Bishop Satorius. Our Spiritual bouquet and Seminary Burse of \$600.00 was presented.

Nov 15: General meeting 7:30pm. Up-

coming pilgrimage to Mother Cabrini on Dec 2nd will be discussed. Call Mary Cigliano for reservations (310) 832-0608.

Dec 8: Branch Christmas party at 6pm. Please join us for a delicious dinner and friendship. Members are free, spouses and/or guests are \$10.00. Please call Nancy Donato for details (310) 833-2584.

2019 calendars are for sale. \$25.00 not only gets you a wonderful calendar but 365 chances to win money daily! Our branch had a few winners this year! This is also a fundraiser for our branch.

Please keep ICF members Giuseppa Pisano and Frank Lauro and their families in your prayers. They will be missed!

*Happy Veteran's Day to all who served this great country!*  
*Happy Thanksgiving to all!*  
Anita Gioiello Trujillo Treasurer

**Arcadia  
Holy Angeles, Br. 218**

Our next meeting is on the 14th at which time we will have the nomination of officers. We have several positions to fill. Our next fundraiser is our Christmas Boutique, November 18; setup on the 17th. To sign up to help please see chairperson, Linda Szerdehelye. Help is needed with setting up, selling sandwiches after the 5:00pm Mass on Saturday and all-day Sunday, and running the baked goods table. Your baked



Newly-ordained priest Fr. Pio Vottola with Br. 115 president Neal DiLeva

goods should be brought to the hall either Saturday or early Sunday. December 2nd is a donut sale and at this time we are still looking for a chairperson. December 8th is the branch Christmas party which I am in charge of. Details to follow.

We recently lost a very dear, longtime and founding member of our branch, Angie Copabianco, who was very active. She was our 50/50 lady, always so friendly to everyone. We extend our sympathy to Angie's family and know that she will be greatly missed.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving and we will see you soon.

Lolly M.

**Claremont  
Our Lady of the Assumption,  
Br. 319**

Fall is in full swing. We are all getting ready for Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. November 11th will be The Bishop's banquet at St John's Seminary. The cost will be \$25 per person for the dinner masses at 11 a.m. and there will be a bus leaving from La Canada High School on that morning to get us up there.

Our Branch Thanksgiving dinner will be on the 16th of November with the traditional turkey and all the fixin's. Hopefully we'll see you there too.

In December, Christmas brings all the fun and festive activities, Santa Claus, and a lot of work. On December 2nd we will have the pilgrimage at Mother Cabrini Chapel. The Mass will be at 12:30 p.m. and lunch to follow. The cost is \$17 for the luncheon. On December 7th will be the Christmas party at Children's Hospital Los Angeles at 6pm. All are welcome to come and join the festivities at the hospital. The next big day will be December 16th where we will have our Branch Christmas party at Foothill Terrace Mobile Home Park. The dinner will be provided by Jouni's. We will ask you to bring cookies for dessert and a Christmas ornament so we can do our annual storytime Christmas game.

Let's all remember that this is a time of giving and sharing so please keep the ill in your prayers and also remember those who have left us in the past year. They will be missed.

*Happy Thanksgiving to all,*  
Andrea Linn  
Corresponding Secretary

**Temple City  
St. Luke, Br. 326**

September 16, 2018 found the Branch attending the quarterly 8:30 a.m. Mass. After the Mass, the Branch partook in a Mexican style breakfast at one of the local Cantinas. It is almost laughable that fourteen Italians feasted on Mexican food. But we ate, and we enjoyed the food and the friendship!

At the September meeting, the Branch finally firmed up most of our outstanding plans. Sadly, recruitment was not one



Freshly-elected 2019 Br. 380 board members, ready for a great year!

of them. But with Italian fortitude, the Branch will settle this issue.

The Branch will celebrate Thanksgiving with a traditional feast at Nano's Ristorante. With a name like Nano, it must be a fine grandmother-style restaurant.

September's meeting established a date for our annual pancake breakfast fundraiser: February 17th, 2019. All profits from this event will benefit the graduating class of St. Luke's.

Branch 326 wishes to say happy birthday to: Pat Buccola, Eleanor Cuneo, Mary Jacobs, Jim Law and Fred Peritore.

Spiritual thought of the month: Catch up with Jesus. Let us praise and relish Him, because He loves me from my head to my toes.

Jest of the month: Honk if you love Jesus. Text while driving if you want to meet Him.

*Tony Farinella*

### **Downey St. Raymond, Br. 362**

As we are approaching Halloween, it is going to be time for our traditional Bingo Luncheon. It will be in November, just in time for the holiday season.

We have done well the past few months and are looking forward to our holiday season. We thank you all for your support and hope to continue seeing you at our gatherings.

*Thank you and God bless.*

### **Thousand Oaks St. Paschal Baylon, Br. 380**

Our Oktoberfest and Halloween-themed general meeting on October 5th was a lot of fun! We shared all kinds of wine, had authentic German food catered by Alpine Deli, and everyone voted in a costume contest at the end of the night. During the meeting, Branch member Lou Mages gave an enlightening presentation regarding the current state of politics in Italy. At the meeting we also selected our officers for the new year, and members of all ages stepped up to the plate to fill these positions.

With that, we are proud to announce our newly-elected officers for 2019:

Co-Presidents Jean Bridges, Anne Interrante; Co-1st Vice Presidents Nick Iezza, Remo Iezza; Co-2nd Vice Presidents Joyce Alessandrino, Ryan Interrante; Financial Secretary Bill Metz; Co-Treasurers Claudia Pirozzi, Ken Pirozzi; Recording Secretary Cathie Lawrence; Orator Deacon Dave Lawrence; Co-Sentinels Natalie Alessandrino, Matthew Bridges, Madeline Bruno, Samantha Bruno, Liam Swist; Trustees Annette Bondelli, Marie Chodkowski, Lou Mages.

Our branch will be volunteering at the St. Paschal Baylon Festival again this year on October 19-21. We will be selling sausage and meatball sandwiches, pasta and pizza.

We would again like to remind readers that on Sunday November 11th, the Los Angeles Archdiocese District's Bishop's Day Mass and luncheon will take place at St. John's Seminary in Camarillo.

Upcoming events:

- November 2 (Fri.) - General Meeting
- November 11 (Sun.) - Bishop's Day Mass and Luncheon
- December 2 (Sun.) - Mother Cabrini Annual Pilgrimage
- December 8 (Sat.) - Family Christmas Party

*Have a Happy Halloween!*

*Ryan Interrante*

*Corresponding Secretary*

### **Manhattan Beach American Martyrs, Br. 447**

The General Meeting held on September 24th was a potluck dinner, followed by a raffle and Italian lesson. Our branch is still brand new, but our membership continues to steadily increase. The Board revealed several upcoming events and opportunities to get involved and make a difference for our American Martyrs Parish and Catholic community.

Our Calendar of Events through the end of the year include:

- October 13th:  
A Taste of Italy in downtown Los

Angeles

- October 20th to October 21st:  
The Parish Fair – Baking cookies for Granny's Kitchen
- October 29th at 6:30 p.m.:  
General Meeting (Appetizers & Desserts) – Volunteer Sign-Up Event
- November 7th at 7:00 p.m.:  
Board Meeting
- December 4th:  
Help for the Hungry – Make sandwiches and deliver to downtown Los Angeles
- December 5th at 7:00 p.m.:  
Board Meeting
- December 10th at 6:30 p.m.:  
General Meeting – Christmas Party (Wine Tasting Event)

Look for an invitation to join our Facebook page!

As our membership continues to grow, so does our need for talented people to step into newly created positions on the Board. Please come to the next General Meeting, and help us continue to grow ICF at American Martyrs.

Please watch for announcements in the church bulletin.

*Ciao!*

*Stephanie DeRaddo*

*Recording & Corresponding Secretary*

## **Monterey Central Coast**

### **Santa Cruz Nostra Signora del Soccorso, Br. 21**

Thanksgiving is coming...and the turkeys have scattered! But Branch 21 members aren't chasing after them because they're poised to celebrate several up-coming events. On November 4th will be our annual Memorial Mass and Breakfast to honor all those loved ones who have passed. Then on November 10th will be the ICF District Meeting hosted by our neighboring Monterey Branch. Please contact Roseann Costabile for reservations. Then on December 7th will be the ICF Christmas Party and more information on this will be sent by mail.

Last month's Spaghetti Dinner, which our Branch co-hosted with the Knights of Columbus, was a great success. There was a big turnout and included Santa Cruz's own mayor, David Terrazas, along with a visiting Councilman from Santa Cruz' sister city, Sestri Levante, Italy. A good time was had by all and much of the profits from this event went to support Holy Cross School. We send out our heartfelt thanks to all those who worked hard to put this event together...and even the school children rolled up their sleeves to help.

Once again we sadly report the passing of another dear Branch 21 member, Sergio Bruni. He was a faithful member whose

gentle nature will be missed and we send our prayers and condolences to his family.

In closing, have a happy and safe Thanksgiving as you celebrate with gratitude so many blessings. Maya Angelou once wrote: Let gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your nightly prayer.

*Patty Morelli*

*Secretary*

### **Salinas Sacred Heart, Br. 25**

Members of Branch 25 worked in the Pizza Booth at the annual Sacred Heart Parish International Festival on Sunday, September 23, 2018. Many thanks to our members who volunteered on a beautiful day: Kathy Bullene, Joanne Cristofano, Rita Dominy, Thelma Frontani, Linda Hoffman, Julie Richards, Sharon Scilacci, JoAnn Sullivan, and Gia Ussery. The following weekend, September 30, 2018, the Central Coast Bishop's Day was hosted by Branch 26 in Hollister, at St. Benedict's Church, followed by lunch at Paine's Restaurant. Branch 25 was represented by Julie Richards and JoAnn Sullivan, Central Coast First Vice President and Sentinel, respectively, and Rita Dominy, Frances and Sharon Scilacci, and Tom and JoAnn Sullivan. Kudos to Branch 26 for an outstanding Bishop's Day Program.

Branch 25 helped celebrate Father Manny Recera's 60th Birthday Party, a dinner dance fund raiser, on Friday, October 12, 2018, at the Sacred Heart gym. Father Manny was great at karaoke, he can really sing. Attending the party were: Ralph and Joanne Cristofano, Rita Dominy, Roy and Thelma Frontani, Foster and Linda Hoffman, Marilyn Portschy, Julie Richards and Joe Massolo, Sharon Scilacci, and Tom and JoAnn Sullivan.

Preparations are underway for our annual Polenta Luncheon scheduled for Wednesday, November 7, 2018, at the Sacred Heart Parish Hall. The Branch 25 Christmas Party will be held at JM Ranch on Sunday, December 9, 2018. Invitations will be mailed out shortly.

*JoAnn Sullivan*

*Recording Secretary*

### **Monterey San Carlos, Br. 36**

Hope everyone will have a Blessed Thanksgiving with their families and friends.

September 7-9, 2018: Santa Rosalia – Branch #36 worked the Calamari booth. Liz Grammatico, chairman, thanked all who volunteered their time, made this a very successful event.

September 23, 2018: Branch #36 hosted Donut Sunday after all the masses at San Carlos Cathedral. Everyone enjoyed the fellowship while enjoying donuts and coffee. Thank you, Antonia Ihnot, chairman and her committee.

September 30, 2018: Several of our mem-



Br. 36 members made the Calamari booth a big success in September

bers attended Bishop's Day hosted by Branch #26. A lovely Mass at St Benedict's and reception at Paine's, all in Hollister. Central Coast presented a check in the amount \$4,500.00 to the Diocese of Monterey for the Seminary Fund. Central Council also gave an additional \$2,000.00 to the Seminary Fund.

October 4, 2018: Dinner/Meeting - Thank you Peter John Curatolo, our executive chef, and crew for an outstanding dinner. Cranberry Sage stuffed pork chops over herbed cannellini beans, Sicilian salad, garlic bread, and homemade fruit cobbler. Nominations and elections for branch officers were held.

Our sympathy to the family of Harry Mucha. Harry was a member of Branch #36 for eight years. Continue to pray for our members and their families who are ill. We also pray for our members that are unable to attend our functions and we want them to know, we are always thinking of them.

December 8, 2018: Adult Christmas Party

December 16, 2018: Children's Christmas Party

With love,  
Elaine Valentine

### Castroville Santa Caterina de Siena, Br. 51

November is here and you know what that means. The holidays are fast approaching!

On October 12th our Grand President Andy installed our 10 new members during our general meeting. Along with having Andy with us that evening and enjoying a wonderful potluck dinner, we had the privilege of special guest and new member Rosella Salarpi join us all the way

from Massarosa, Italy. Rosella told us how honored she was to become a member and how happy she was that she could be here in America with us for this special evening. She presented us with some beautiful Italian flags with the I.C.F. emblem on them. Thank you Rosella, we will treasure them always.

Our Charity project for November is our parish's "Adopt-A-Family" for Christmas. This year we will adopt a family of 6. The family consists of mom and dad in their 30's and 4 children ages 10 years old to 9 months. Please keep our special family in your prayers.

Happy Birthday to our November babies: Egidio Tonus who has been a member for 40 years and Virginia Frassetto who has been a member for 68 years.

During this season of being thankful I would like to say thank you to all the members of Branch #51. Thank you for all your hard work, patience and generosity throughout the year. I am blest to call you my friends and my wonderful I.C.F. family. And thank you to Ed & Bella Leonard for always being there for us.

Happy Thanksgiving,  
Cindy Stefani

### Capitola St. Joseph, Br. 227

In keeping with football season, our October meeting featured pizza, beer and salad. Thanks to Mike Rios for arranging for the food and our bartender Rick Kotila.

The branch voted to donate \$250 to St. Vincent de Paul. In addition, members bring non-perishable food items to our monthly meetings. Every Wednesday St. Vincent de Paul volunteers distribute food and food vouchers to the needy. They also give out food baskets on Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter. We are happy to help them.

Upcoming meeting dates:

- November 11th - traditional turkey dinner prepared by Vicky Howell and crew.
- December 8 or 9 - Date TBA - Christmas Party.

Upcoming dates for 2019:

- Feb. 9th - We are hosting the District Meeting. We will need cooks, raffle prizes, and workers.
- Feb 23rd - Installation of officers, Sacred Heart Church, Salinas.
- March 8th - Fish Frys begin.

Happy Birthday to our esteemed senior members Ida Lomazzi, Kay Waldvogel and Frank Locatelli who are celebrating birthdays in October and November.

A thought from Peter Kreeft, Professor of Philosophy at Boston College: "By the way, if you get mad at your Mac laptop and wonder who designed this demonic device, notice the manufacturer's icon on top: an apple with a bite out of it."

Deanna Musler, Secretary

### Arroyo Grande St. Patrick, Br. 291

Our October Fall Fundraising Dinner was a success! After tossing around several ideas on what to serve, we decided on our popular spaghetti dinner. It was a delicious meal enjoyed by all! Also mark your calendars for our November 9th Spaghetti Dinner from 4-7pm in our parish hall, and veterans eat for free! All proceeds benefit our Catholic School Registration Assistance Program. In addition to our Fall Fundraising dinners, we are also holding a Fish Fry Dinner raffle to benefit our Registration Assistance Program. Enter for a chance to win four two-piece fish fry dinners each week during our five Lenten Fish Frys—that's 20 dinners total! Raffle tickets are \$10 each and are available now. There will be two winners!

At our October 28th General Meeting we voted for our 2019 Branch Officers. Results will be published in our December Bollettino report.

Our Branch is looking forward to our Christmas Luncheon at the Madonna Inn on Sunday, Dec. 2nd. Joanna Van Blaricom, Kathleen Sullivan and Sylvia Nasholm are hard at work in making sure this annual event is a fun and festive celebration for our members and their guests! Please make sure to mail your RSVP by Nov. 17th!

We will not be holding Board or General Meetings in November and December, so our members can enjoy Thanksgiving weekend and Christmas with their loved ones. However, we hope to see all our members at the Christmas Luncheon on Dec. 2nd!

Happy Thanksgiving!  
Keely Sanchez  
Recording Secretary

## Oakland East Bay

### District Council

As we enter this busy season of rushing toward the holidays, let's slow down a little and remember what we have to be thankful for during the past year. We can begin our list with being thankful that we were once again able to donate scholarships to all four levels of students and thank the ICF for recognizing our efforts.

Another thank you goes to the folks who helped make our CC in-service a success, both the presenters and the "cooks." And the race is on... for a very busy time from now until installation.

By the time you read this, we will have had a meeting to get things started for the Crab Feed, Jan. 19th, which is the evening before installation on Jan. 20th. So you can see that this is a very busy time for the district as well as for us individually, and we are and will be most thankful for all who are able to help make these things happen.

Going forward, let's take a minute or two a day to thank God for our health, our families and friends and for the support of our ICF family during this past year.

A Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving to each and every one of you.

Pat Grasso,  
District Secretary

### Alameda Nostra Signora Delle Grazie, Br. 10

We welcomed 135 ICF members and friends to our annual Ravioli Dinner on October 6, prepared by chefs Ben Ratto and Rich Kaula. We were visited by members of Birthright of San Lorenzo, a crisis pregnancy center, who were presented with gifts of infant and maternity items as well as monetary donations. We were also joined by officers from other branches in the East Bay District and members of the Saint Philip Neri School Class of 1978, celebrating their 40th reunion.

Net proceeds from the dinner were donated to Saint Philip Neri School of Alameda in memory of Dave Rose, our president, who died in June. On display were the plaque proclaiming July 14, 2018, "David Marshall Rose Day" in the City of Alameda and a binder containing letters supporting Dave for the 2008 Saint Pope John Paul XXIII Award.

Our Christmas party is scheduled for December 8 in Monsignor O'Brien Hall. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Maria Croft will prepare the dinner of salad, pasta and meatballs and dessert. Santa Claus will visit and distribute gifts to children. Prices: members, \$12.00; non-members, \$15.00; youths 12 and under (member families), free / (non-member families), \$5.00.

For reservations, contact John Zugnoni, [john@zugnoni.net](mailto:john@zugnoni.net), (510) 523-8005 by 9:00 a.m. December 3. Payment in advance by check to ICF Branch 10, sent to Saint Philip Neri Church Office, 3101 Van Buren Street, Alameda, CA 94501. NOTE: The October Bollettino stated an incorrect date for the Christmas party. Saturday, December 8 is the correct date.

John Zugnoni, Publicity

### Oakland Santa Rita, Br. 40

The election of Branch officers for 2019 was not completed in October due to absence of Branch officers. Election of Branch officers has been moved to the November meeting. All members are welcomed to attend. The 2019 ICF calendars are here and for sale at a cost of \$25. For every calendar sold by our branch we keep \$5. When you buy this calendar you have a chance to win between \$30-\$100 every day of the year. And even if you win one day your name goes back into the drawing to win the following day. This year's calendar theme is "Festas for the Family." It is filled with wonderful recipes and stories - not just Italian, but Portuguese and

others. To get your calendars and a chance to win, please contact Claire Ramirez at 510-724-9790.

On a side note, the planned Bingo for Nov 10th has been cancelled.

Upcoming events:

- November 5th: Monthly meeting and officer elections, 7pm Sacred Heart Center.
- December 3rd: Monthly meeting, 7pm.
- January 20th, 2019: ICF District Installation of officers. Mass and dinner to follow. More information on price and menu to come.

Remember in your prayers the sick and convalescing; especially, Anna Alberti, Rosalie DeSanti, Ernestine Perneco, Ida Scodella and Esemea Tobacco. God Bless you all. Happy Thanksgiving everyone.

Thought: "I can't do everything. But everything I do, I can do with love."

*Ciao,*

*M.A. Francis and L. Francis*

### **Fremont St. Francis of Assisi, Br. 215**

The goblins have gone and the nights are now safe for the rest of us mere mortals. Our thoughts turn toward Thanksgiving. Children's plays recalling the Pilgrims and reconnection with the family set the tone as Thanksgiving ushers in the holiday season with ingrained memories of the aroma of turkey roasting, pies baking and tables overflowing with favorite dishes to sate the hordes of family waiting to devour them. This is a time to remember those who are no longer able to join us.

Branch 215 hosted a successful fall salad luncheon and bingo. Thanks to Nadine Mattier, and her outstanding committee for a job well done. Thanks to Branch 215 members and friends for their generous donation of food, prizes, and time and those who attended this fun event.

Branch 215 was well represented at Corpus Christi's Ministry Fair on the 20th and 21st.

Newly elected 2019 officers:

President: Fran LaTorre

1st Vice President: James McGee

Recording Secretary: Shirley Delucchi

Financial Secretary/Treasurer: John Delucchi

Orator: Nadine Mattier

1st Trustee: Genevieve Vanek

2nd Trustee: Ralph Marinelli

Sentinel: Joan Lampe

We didn't play Bocce in October, but this will resume pending weather and court availability at the Fremont Elks club. Contact Jack Navarra or Scott Schiechl for more information.

December 11th - annual Christmas party at Giorgio's in Milpitas. Contact Fran LaTorre for reservations.

Congratulations to members with birthdays, anniversaries, and special events. Our thoughts and prayers to the ill, first responders, military and their families.

*Ken Chiatello*

*Branch 215*

### **Livermore St. Filomena, Br. 285**

All Saints Day, November 1, has passed. So has All Souls Day on November 2. All-Hallow's-Eve and Halloween are the same day, the night before All Saints Day, but most children have no idea of the why or how Halloween began. It's a bit of a sad commentary.

Our October meeting was held at St. Michael's in Livermore. Carolina Cardinalli and Virginia Williams were the hosts for this meeting. It was a wine and hor d'oeuvres event as we were all invited to attend the installation of the new pastor, Father Carl. While we enjoyed our wine and hor d'oeuvres, Phyl and Joe Buonsante gave a presentation on Puglia and their hometown of Mola di Bari, just north of the city of Bari. Joe's dad was a mason and one of his works includes the central structure in the town piazza. Elaine and my visit to Mola di Bari was more meaningful to us because we knew the Buonsante history. Sharing family history is an important part of ICF.

This month we have our annual Mass of Remembrance and monthly meeting at St. Elizabeth Seton in Pleasanton. We are fortunate to have Lenore Colarusso as the cantor for this solemn event. The Mass enables us to reflect on the fragility of human life, to remember and pray for our deceased loved ones, and to reaffirm our commitment to live as Christ would want us to do. The Mass begins at 6:00 PM followed by our monthly meeting.

*Ciao,*

*Charles*

### **Castro Valley Our Lady of Grace, Br. 343**

Well we did it again - we had a most successful Pasta dinner at the OLG fall festival, thanks to a small group of members who pulled it together. Mike, Lisa and Pat in the kitchen, Dorothy, Annette and Anna in the dining room and best of all our Biscotti makers, Darlene and Juanita. Many thanks for all your help.

This thank you brings to mind a thought at this time of the year as we rush forward to the holidays and the end of the year: slow down, take a breath and think about what you have and what you can share. The talents of those newly-elected officers and the ideas they may bring to the branch is something we can be thankful for having, so let's support them. The skills of the bakers as they share their recipes for our bake sale to replace the dollars needed to continue supporting our scholarship programs is another.

There are many upcoming activities with

both the branch and the district where you may be asked to extend yourself and for this we are thankful for all the help that is available. Let's be thankful for these things, these people and each other.

A Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving to all Br. #343 members and their families and loved ones.

*Pat Grasso,*

*Branch Secretary*

## **Contra Costa**

### **District Council**

By now all branches should have nominated/elected their officers for next year. A list of next year's District officers will be published in the December Bollettino.

We offer our congratulations and our gratitude to next year's Branch and District officers and we thank this year's officers for their work.

Our Night of Recollection took place on Monday, September 10th and was hosted by the Richmond branch. The dinner was delicious and Father Young's presentation was very inspiring as usual.

The Holiday season has arrived and we'll celebrate the birth of our Savior and Redeemer, Jesus Christ. Let us rejoice and be glad.

Thanksgiving Day is coming up. It is a time to thank God for His goodness and blessings, a time for families to gather and share their love for one another.

The District Christmas dinner party is scheduled for Monday, December 3rd at 7:00 P.M. at De Vino's Italian restaurant in Pleasant Hill. I encourage you to attend this event, as it's always a lot of fun to get together with members of other branches and share in the camaraderie. Please send your RSVP to your branch President by November 30th. Payment for your dinner will be made individually at the restaurant. If you don't have time, take the time to make the time.

Please become more involved in the District functions, I know you'll have a good time.

I close with the following wise quote: It's nice to be important, but it's more important to be nice.

*Joseph ([joeflores33@comcast.net](mailto:joeflores33@comcast.net))*

### **Martinez San Martino, Br. 13**

Branch #13's annual Family Polenta, Chicken and Sausage Dinner was a great success. Thanks to those members who gave their time, donated baskets, and auction desserts. Special thanks to the diners, table sponsors, and our young adult servers. Thanks to Bob and Teresa Poirier for their donation of the "poker chip" electronic drawing prize; a 39" television. Profits earmarked for the Marina Ellis 8th Grade Scholarship, St. Catherine Respect Life Ministry, as well as other programs.

Members Mary Cook and Teresa Poirier were docents for the Martinez Home Tour on October 13. This year, the tour featured St. Catherine of Siena Church and School. They welcomed guests with facts and history of this beautiful church in all its glory to God.

Our new slate of officers elected at the October meeting will be introduced and congratulated shortly. Stay tuned.

Our Holiday Feast is on Friday, November 16 in the St. Catherine of Siena Parish Center Library. Attendees bring all the fixings and sides for a stuffed Thanksgiving meal. We will gather to thank God and feast on delicious food. You are invited and welcome to join us. Please RSVP to 925-229-2665 to let us know what you will prepare to complement the dinner. We close out our year with this feast as Branch #13 does not have a regular meeting in December.

ICF Calendars are available for purchase for \$25 each with 365 chances to win. Member Marylynn Rogers was a recent winner! Bring your checkbooks to our next meeting.

*Ciao for now.*

*May all have a blessed Thanksgiving.*

*Anne Crisp*

### **Crockett San Carlo, Br. 14**

Who doesn't like barbecued turkey? A full Thanksgiving dinner that Chef Al DiPrima prepares and only costs \$10, sounds like something of which we should all be thankful. Our November 13 meeting begins with Mass at 5:30pm, dinner at 6:30pm, and the meeting at 7:30pm, featuring our Turkey Raffle as well as nominations and election of 2019 officers. Why not think about holding an office this year?

Please bring canned goods to the meeting to share with those less fortunate. Remember that while we take so many things for granted, there are many who are homeless, hungry, and alone. This is a perfect opportunity to share with those in need.

Friday, November 16th is our Pedro and Card Night. It's always a fun night and will start earlier than usual at 5:00pm.

Anyone interested in the December 7th Thunder Valley Casino Trip should contact Donna, 799-2336. Bus leaves Crockett at 9:00am, there will be a 4-hour stay, and bus will return by 5:00pm. Cost is \$30, but you receive \$15 free play and a \$5 food credit. Sounds like a winner whether the slots pay or not.

November 11th is Veterans's Day; please remember those who have fought for our many freedoms and our liberties.

As you sit around your Thanksgiving table, be thankful for the little ones who are noisy, the adults who talk or argue too much, the football game blaring in the background. This is Thanksgiving! Celebrate, and thank God for your blessings!

*Ciao,*

*Diane Bottini Thomas*

## Pittsburg San Domenico, Br. 72

Dear Members,

Thanks for joining our October meeting held after dinner at the New Mecca restaurant in Pittsburg. Dinner was delicious. We held election of officers for 2019. Thanks to all who stepped up to hold offices.

Watch for your invitation to our November anniversary celebration and meeting. We will share memories of our past while we celebrate our future. We should be proud that our branch was recognized for retaining our membership. Let's keep it up and let's gain new members. Don't forget to invite your families to join us. Tell your friends they are welcome. They do not have to be Italian. They need to be Catholic. Add your grandchildren as well. There is a family plan.

Please pray for our 2nd VP. Josie Leontini had a heart attack. She was hospitalized twice over a short period. For many years Josie set up and decorated our meeting room. We thank her for being a devoted member.

You are invited to the District Christmas dinner party. This fun event will take place on Monday December 3 at 7:00PM at De Vino's Italian restaurant in Pleasant Hill. No payment needed in advance. We will order off the menu and pay by separate checks. Headcount is needed. RSVP to Patty by November 30.

ICF Calendars for 2019 are on sale. Each calendar comes with your ticket for the daily raffle which takes place for 365 days. You can win over and over. A great deal for only \$25.00.

See everyone soon.

*Sempre Avanti,*  
Patty

## Richmond St. Raymond, Br. 154

The Polenta Dinner, held on October 20, 2018, was a tremendous success. We had well over 100 attendees who helped to make this fundraiser one of our best ever! Thank you to Walter Costa, Toni Reeder, Alicia and Ruben Treviño, Domenica Yonke, Carmen Avila, Carol and Marilyn Darling, and everyone who contributed their time, talents, support and raffle prizes. If I have forgotten anyone, please forgive me.

Calendars are for sale. Please see Dee Yonke to place your order. Who knows? You might win!

November 12 meeting is a Mass to remember our deceased members; evening meal of soup and salad to follow: \$8.00. Mass is at 6:00 PM. Call Terry Ventin, (510) 524-6093, for reservations. Another bus trip to Cache Creek is in the works for some time in November - more information to follow. Election of new officers will also be held in November. If you are thinking of running for office, now is the time to come forward.



Br. 442 Fall Dinner

The December 10 meeting is our Annual Polenta Dinner with a short meeting to follow. Free for all members, \$10.00 for guests. Reserve with Toni Reeder by December 4th.

*Find us and like us on FaceBook - St Raymond154*

## Brentwood Immaculate Heart of Mary, Br. 432

Ciao all,

Playing to an overflow crowd, it was another successful "FESTA d' ITALIA." Roadsters, Coupes, Hot Rods and Classic Cars: It doesn't get any better than Branch 432's 9th annual "Concourse d' Elegance." A cavalcade of automotive excellence featuring some of America's greatest automobiles was held September 21st in the IHM Church parking lot and hall. With over 30 cars on display to be viewed and savored, dozens of classic automobile enthusiasts



One of many Br. 432 show cars on display



Br. 432's car show owners with their "Best of Show" trophies



The many attendees to Br. 432's car show enjoy a pasta dinner

walked up and down the rows enjoying the cars and exchanging stories with the owners.

This festive event didn't end at the Concourse, dinner was served. Early evening saw a pasta buffet with all the trimmings rolled out for all participants and visitors to enjoy. Coupled with wine or beverage of your choice, the meal was the beginning of a fitting end for a great day, enjoyed by all who attended.

The 9th annual "FESTA d' ITALIA" was a glowing success and is growing in popularity every year thanks to the many Branch members who donate their time and effort.

Thank you and God Bless all who worked for its success.

Looking ahead to the October meeting, your thoughts should be tuned to the potential nominees for 2019's Branch Officers. Not an easy task but one that needs to be done.

Happiness is not having what you want. It is appreciating what you have.

*la vita è buona*

## Christ the King Pleasant Hill, Br. 442

We are in Fall. And you know what that means: Felice Anniversario! We are officially 5 years old. Tanti auguri a noi...

Our Fall anniversary dinner was on October 6, and it was a wonderful and well attended event. It was lovely to see so many ICF members and their families as well as many members of our parish. We were also graced by the clergy of our parish and Fr. Mario Rizzo led us in prayer. The parish gym was decorated beautifully transforming it into a most welcoming dining room. We had a great band, a delicious five course meal of antipasto, salad, pasta, meatballs and sausages, and assorted desserts. And we had many gorgeous raffle baskets. Our donors truly outdid themselves. Of course, it took a lot of hard work from very dedicated people to put this event together. A special thank you to the committee heads, chefs, decorators, raffle basket coordinators, bartenders, entertainment chair and dessert coordinator, and clean-up and ticket sales coordinators. None of this would have been possible without all the volunteers... What dedica-



Br. 442 Fall Dinner chefs Juliette Cote, Molly Dallara, San Veneziano and Matt Dallara

tion. So, a big thank you to everyone who helped make our Anniversary Dinner so memorable. Wow!

November is election month. So be on the lookout for the evite for details of our November meeting and be sure you attend. Consider running for an officer position as well.

More to come in the next months. Planning for the Ladies Tea will start soon. Again, Happy Anniversary. Best wishes in the coming year.

*Eileen McGauran*

# San Bernardino

## Upland St. Joseph, Br. 446

St. Joseph Branch 446 plans many social activities during our meetings. A new annual event was our All American Celebration to honor the many veterans in our branch. Members brought photos or arti-



Br. 446's Amy and Danny Centurioni opening baby presents



Br. 446's Joe Canchola with memorabilia



Younger members of the Queen's Court for Our Lady of the Rosary's 10th Annual Festa, in which Br. 230 led the procession

facts and shared stories about their family members that served in the armed forces. Of exceptional note was member Joe Canchola, our branch treasurer. He served in the submarine corps and is still active with many veterans who also served on submarines. Teresa, his wife, had an uncle that paid the ultimate sacrifice and died during World War II in the battle of Monte Casino in Italy.

Terry and Danny Urais, our vice-presidents, have a long line of family members in the military. Terry grew up in a military family and is very proud of their contributions to our country. Our branch tries to incorporate family heritage information at our meetings as well as having a wonderful social time.

Another special event was to celebrate the upcoming birth of our newest ICF member. Our branch had a baby shower for Amy and Danny Centurioni to anticipate the arrival of their son Zachary. Organized by First Vice President Jasmine Hite, we all had fun playing games, eating and passing on advice to the new family.

## San Diego

### San Diego Our Lady of the Rosary, Br. 230

Branch 230 moves from a busy summer season to a no less busy fall season this month.

September's General Meeting was a usual success with great good, fellowship, and fun. Attendees were treated to a pasta, salad, and garlic bread dinner with dessert.

October kicked off with Our Lady of the Rosary's 10th Annual Festa on October 7th in honor of our Virgin Mother Mary. This was again a truly spectacular event, highlighted by an outdoor Mass presided over by Bishop Robert Brom and street procession from the church to San Diego's waterfront and Embarcadero with all the Marian Societies represented. Branch 230 was honored to be at the head of the procession through the streets of Little Italy and represented well with last year's Queen, this year's Queen, and all of the

Queen's Court and princes and princesses in attendance and looking beautiful.

Looking ahead to this month, Branch 230 is excited for the Annual Columbus Day Ball and Baking with Nonna event, the latter of which will treat OLR's children to a day of baking with the delicious results being donated to the upcoming OLR Annual Spaghetti Dinner to help raise money for the parish.

*God Bless  
John Sgalio*

## San Francisco

### San Francisco Maria S.S. Immacolata, Br. 1

Dear Members,

Please note the following upcoming event: Dec. 5th Christmas Party and Raffle, 6:00 pm, Cost \$20.00, Chairperson Vic Arnau (650) 755-1369. Please bring a raffle prize. Sadly reporting the loss of member George Matranga, a member since 2003. Condolences to his wife, member Esperanza, brother and sister-in-law, members Joseph & Judy and their families.

Happy Thanksgiving to all Branch 1 members!

*Ciao,  
Toni Morsello*

### San Francisco St. Elizabeth, Br. 258

Mark your calendars for Monday, Dec. 3rd, for our Christmas Luncheon.

We honored Al Oneto for his 100th Birthday at our 47th Anniversary Luncheon on Sept. 14th at the Basque Restaurant. It was nice to see Al and Louise again. Congratulations Al!

On Friday, Nov. 30th, we will enjoy a hosted lunch at the Basque Restaurant Woolgrowers. After lunch, we will go to Duarte's Nursery to view their amazing Holiday Poinsettias. Each guest will re-

ceive 1 complimentary 6.5 inch poinsettia. This is always a very enjoyable day.

Happy Thanksgiving to all of our members and their families.

To all of our members who have a birthday in November, many more years of much happiness and good health.

Please remember our ill and deceased members in your prayers.

We are happy that the Convention was another success.

Remember the following dates:

Nov. 25th - Mass

Nov. 26th - Meeting

*Ciao,  
Eva Perata, President*

## San Mateo

### Colma San Vincenzo De Paolo, Br. 19

Hello Everyone!

October was a very busy month for our branch and its members. We want to thank those who made the dinner meeting and Pedro Tournament successful. Also, congratulations to our new officers for 2019 and thank you to the officers of 2018.

Branch Schedule:

- Friday, November 9th: Chaplains Night hosted by Branch 213 at SSF Elk's Club (South San Francisco Elk's Club, 920 Stonegate Drive, South San Francisco). Call Deborah Rodondi with your reservation and food choice by October 22nd.
- Monday, November 12th: Veteran's Day – no meeting.
- Monday, November 26th: Dinner meeting - Reservation to Cheryl Simon by the 22nd at (650) 755-0878. LEAVE MESSAGE or email [cas94015@yahoo.com](mailto:cas94015@yahoo.com) with reservation.

Most important, come to the following:

DECEMBER 10th, Monday, Christmas Party and 90th Anniversary Celebration

hosted by Donna Barnes. Come and help celebrate 90 years of tradition and dedication by members of the branch. Reservations to Donna Barnes by 12/3 at 183 Santa Paula Drive - (650) 991-0178.

Please remember our sick and lonely members in your prayers. November is also the month to remember our loved ones who have gone before us.

*N. Thurman*

### Burlingame Our Lady of Angels, Br. 173

We started off our last Pizza dinner and meeting with the reports from our two delegates who attended the Convention. Thanks to Donna Cervelli for hosting our pizza night, and thanks to all those who assisted.

Our November calendar is full with two big events along with our dinner and meeting on November 8, 2018.

November 9: Chaplain's Night, hosted by Branch 213, St. Augustine, SSF. No host Cocktails: 6:00 p.m., dinner: 7:00 p.m., \$40.00: New York steak, baked salmon, chicken medallions, vegetables, dessert wine, and coffee. DEADLINE: October 25. Joyce James, chairperson: (650) 703-3609. Advise M.A. Camacho if you want to attend.

November 24: Pedro Tournament - Our Lady of Angels School Gym. Chairperson: Dorene Campanile. Coffee and donuts/Registration: 9:00 a.m. Tournament: 10:00 a.m. promptly. Lunch will follow, \$40.00: Pasta, garlic bread, salad, soft drinks, dessert. Tournament only: \$25. Lunch only: \$15.00. If you must cancel, please find a replacement, as the loss of one player puts three others out of the game.

Please remember many of our members could use extra spiritual help with our prayers.

*God Bless,  
Rosalind C. Emery*

### South San Francisco St. Augustine, Br. 213

This month's dinner meeting was hosted by Roberta Franchini, and Harold and Virginia Fuentes. We enjoyed a pasta, salad and chicken dinner followed by a special cake made by Mary Rose Favluzzir. Thanks to all who prepared the food and set up the meeting hall.

We are looking forward to a District event - Chaplains Night - Friday, November 9th. South San Francisco Elks Club. Fr. Rene Ramoso will be in attendance. Check with Roberta for reservations.

Prayers for a speedy recovery to our sick members and their families and we welcome back Jackie Smith and wish her a continued recovery.

Thanks to all who financially supported the branch and purchased 2019 Calendars.

Congratulations to our newly elected officers - Installation Mass and luncheon is on January 19th. Welcome to our new



## Gilroy Santa Maria Ausiliatrice, Br. 28

Our September dinner meeting was a potluck affair. A wonderful meal of assorted dishes prepared by our members. First time ICF Convention delegates Vince Sasso and Roy Shackel, Second Vice President and Orator, shared with members, their experiences in the sessions and workshops each attended. Thank you to all delegates, Gennaro Filice, Joe Fortino, and Vince and Roy.

On September 22nd a group of our members attended the Octoberfest event put on by the ICF Santa Clara Valley District in downtown San Jose. Members enjoyed a traditional German buffet and dessert of apple strudel along with a fundraising raffle of branch-supplied gift baskets. Great to mingle with other branches and raise funds for all ICF worthwhile causes.

ICF Bishop's Day was held on October 6th. A Mass was held and officiated by Bishop Patrick J. McGrath at Transfiguration Church in San Jose. After the Mass members attended a luncheon. This was a special event where members not only attended the Mass by the Bishop but were able to meet him personally at the luncheon. Once the date for next year is confirmed, we will let you know.

The next dinner meeting will be held on November 12th. Andy Pappani has graciously volunteered to cook with the assistance of the board members. The menu will feature Thanksgiving flair with all the trimmings. We are blessed to have Andy coordinate and cook for us as his schedule as Grand President is very busy. Thank you Andy.

*Peace and God Bless,  
Kim M. Filice*

## San Jose St. Frances Cabrini, Br. 191

Fall Greetings from Branch 191. The 2018 San Diego Convention was a success. Delegates Debbie Piro and George Midwin shared their experiences. Debbie stated, "It was like a boost of energy. You come back so refreshed and enlightened by all the love and joy." George described conventions as "enlightening, entertaining, fun...Convention is a time of learning, exploring, and networking with our other branches."

Our own Jo Bertaccini was given the 2018 Grand President's Award which was well deserved. #191 is so very grateful and proud for all that she does to make our branch a huge success. A hearty congratulations.

Our bocce court is now closed. We look forward to the installation of the new awning covers for our eating areas so please plan on coming by and taking a look next summer.

The October 20, 2018 Wine Tasting/Dinner Dance will be a "Slam Dunk", with "Bay Area Sports" as our theme. You will "Hit A Home Run" with tri-tip, salad, po-

tatoes, and "Run Down the End Zone" for a pumpkin pie dessert. Don't make an "Error" by being "Shut Out" by not attending. Tickets on sale now. "Draft" your neighbors and friends to attend. A full "Bullpen" is always more fun!

Thanksgiving is fast approaching - let us give daily thanks for God's blessings and pray for those less fortunate. A kind word goes a long way.

May we pray for our sick and confined members.

*Shirley Catania, Sentinel*

## San Jose Santa Teresa de Avila, Br. 368

"Don't like that soup? That's fine. We have nine more varieties, no two alike." So said our September hostesses Joanne Opp, Jane Wendler, Anna Greco Gonzalez, and Rose Traina. Thanks to them we also enjoyed wine, appetizers, salads, breads, and desserts. A lovely fall theme including ceramic pumpkins, Halloween figures, and orange and yellow tablecloths spiced up the evening.

Jerry Opp, thank you for accepting your new role as casino bus trip organizer! We know it takes a lot of your time and patience, but we also know the trips provide many people with a fun experience they would not otherwise have. Thank you for continuing the bus trip program, for helping folks have a good time, and for raising money for our branch. The October trip to Black Oak Casino on October 17 will be the last trip until February.

Gus and Mary Mavroudis have wonderful news! Their son John, a San Francisco-based artist, drew Dr. Christine Blasey-Ford, right hand raised, for the cover of the October 15, 2018, issue of Time magazine. We share their joy and pride! The name "Mavroudis" is visible on the lower right-hand corner of the drawing. Wow!

We are sorry to lose members Laura and Alfonso Carrillo, who have been active in our parish for a long time. We surprised them with a cake and Home Depot gift certificate, which they can use in their move to Clackamas, Oregon. We will miss them!

*Blessings during this beautiful season,  
Judy Zahn*

## San Jose St. Martin of Tours, Br. 391

Former President Louise Vento, standing in for Mike Rossi, opened our Octoberfest meeting thanking the Vallorz team for the delicious bratwurst/sauerkraut treat. In her Fall heritage report, Louise presented a short version of Christopher Columbus' historic voyage to the West Indies in 1492.

Congratulations to our 2019 officers, who were re-elected: President-Mike Rossi; First Vice President-Marcie Rossi; Second Vice President-Doug Schenk; Secretary-Louise Vento; Financial Secretary-Tina Rossi; Treasurer-Steve Lencioni; Orator-Sister Jane Garrison; Trustees -Susan



Br. 391 members visit shrine of St. Paul at Veria, Greece - (l to r) Mike & Marcie Rossi, Jo Ann Schiro, Fr. George Aranha, mentor Donna Pfaff, Susan & John Busco, Donna Rossi and Sentinel-Linda Ochinerero. We welcome Lynda Vallorz as our new Trustee. We continue to thank you, officers, and outgoing Trustee Russ Vento, for your service to our branch.

We also thank Cathy DeMaria, who continues to do a great job in presiding over the nominating and voting process.

Lynda Vallorz and Diana Vallorz, our convention delegates, reported on informative workshops and presentations that they attended.

There are still a number of 2019 ICF Calendars available for sale. Remember some of the proceeds are returned to our branch.

Don't forget to come to our next fundraiser - Spaghetti, Meatball, and Sausage dinner, which will be held in November. We ask that more members support this fun event.

Upcoming events: Branch #391 meeting - November 6 - we will have a speaker from Catholic Charities; District Day at the Races - November 9; Christmas Party - December 4; and Quarterly Communion - December 9, 8:30 a.m. Mass.

*Have a healthy and happy Thanksgiving!  
Janis Patellaro*

## Sunnyvale Resurrection, Br. 408

Thank you to all our generous Fall Blood Donors. Over 30 individuals shared this Gift of Life with others in need. We were



The Br. 408 / Resurrection School Pancake Breakfast was a success, raising money for Scholarships and the School Tuition Assistance program

able to make a critical input to the Bay Area Blood Supply. Our Final Blood Drive of 2018 will be held in the Farana Center on Saturday 15 December.

Please make an attempt to participate in our St. Francis Cabrini Pilgrimage at St. Francis Cabrini Parish on Sunday 11 November meeting for a Rosary Procession at 10:45 AM followed by a Mass at 11:00 AM.

Thanks to all who attended Bishop's Day at Transfiguration Parish - it was our last meeting with our Good Shephard Bishop PJ MacGrath. He thanked us for our support over these past 20 years.

Our ICF / Resurrection School Pancake Breakfast was a good success and we raised money for our Scholarships and Rez School Tuition Assistance.

Please plan to attend our Branch Christmas Party on Monday 3 December at 6:00 PM.

Please pray for our members - especially for Edith Novak who passed in September and Olive DeFrancisi who has passed in October.

## Morgan Hill St. Catherine of Alexandria, Br. 435

With summer coming to a close we had our last outdoor dinner in September. This was held at one of our local wineries, Morgan Hill Cellars, owned and operated by the Sampognaro family, Branch #435 members. We enjoyed pulled pork, coleslaw, baked beans and corn pudding prepared by Maryclaire Sampognaro and topped it off with a wonderful cake supplied by Denise and Sal Campagna. Right after dinner we had a heritage report from Johanna Tacci who gave us a lovely history of her family's move from Italy to the United States with fond memories of her mother and father. Our president, Giulia Gallego, gave us a report on the convention in San Diego and her adventures of being on her own when her companions had a small emergency and had to leave. But she had lots of other company to help her along and the way and she returned no worse for wear.

Our October dinner will be back inside with a more authentic Italian offering, a polenta dinner prepared by Rich Della

Maggiore and George Guglielmo.

Please keep our ailing members in your prayers. Russ Vento broke his leg while attending the Columbus Day parade in San Francisco.

*Ciao!*

*Maryclaire Sampognaro*

**San Jose  
Church Of The Transfiguration,  
Br. 445**



Bishop McGrath ICF Mass at Transfiguration Church, San Jose, Br. 445

# Santa Rosa

## District Council

Greetings from the vineyard where the grape harvest is nearly over.

We had two very nice events recently – Day of Recollection and Bishop’s Day. Bishop Vasa told us that the diocese has five studying for the priesthood. Many thanks to all involved in preparing these events.

Lauren has sent out the information for the Annual District Raffle to be held at the Christmas Party on Dec. 2 at #198, St. Eugene’s parish hall. Try and sell as much as you can as this is the district’s big fundraiser. Plan to attend the Party as it is a fun event. Please let #198 know how many are going to attend.

Bob A. has distributed forms for nominations for District President’s Award. We know that there are many deserving people in the district.

Nominations are open for district officers. Please speak to Bob A. or Lauren if you are interested.

District Installation of Officers will occur sometime in January at #209, Sebastopol. We need a date. Please let Carmen know so she can send out letters.

Update - At this point, our house has a roof and we are working on Solar, plumbing and electrical decisions.

One year has gone by since the horrific

event of Oct. 9, 2017. Remember all the fire victims in your prayers that they may have the strength to carry on.

Peace and love to all. Pray, comfort and support each other always in this world of seemingly constant turmoil.

CK

**Healdsburg  
St. Francis de Sales, Br. 52**

Our 3rd Golf Tournament on October 7 was a great success. The golfers and guests enjoyed the day at Tayman Park. We thank everyone who sponsored, attended and worked the event! Special thanks to John and Janice Torres for chairing this fun event.

Upcoming Events:

- November 6: Regular meeting in the rectory at 5:30 PM. Please come and join us.
- November 10: Polenta Dinner. Doors open at 5:45 PM. Dinner: 6:30 PM. This is our first polenta dinner of the season. Get your tickets early, as it always sells out. Call Mary Madden for tickets: 431-0438. Price \$15.00 for members, \$20.00 for non-members. Child prices available.
- December 7: Christmas Party. We will have a special guest for the kiddies.

We will be selling raffle tickets for our Nativity Set after all the Masses beginning mid-November. We are also selling the ICF Daily Calendar Raffle. For \$25.00, you could win up to \$100. The branch keeps \$5.00 from each calendar sold.

If you would like to be an officer for 2019, please contact President Richard. We are a large, active branch that can only continue with good leadership.

*Happy Thanksgiving!  
Lauren Kilcullen*

**Cloverdale  
St. Peter, Br. 75**

Happy Harvest time! Most of the grapes have been harvested in our area, and the colors are just beginning to change.

September was quite a month. We are happy to report that our first Dinner in the Vineyards on September 22nd was a wonderful success! The food, music, and lighting were magical. The weather was perfect. People are already asking us for tickets for next year! The profits from the event will go to buying new chairs for our Parish Hall.

At the Dinner we payed homage to two great people. Ulises Valdez, the winery owner who made the wine from St. Peter’s grapes, died suddenly on September 12th at the age of 49. We also remembered Joe Dell’Aquila who died suddenly on September 14th. Joe was a very active member of Branch 75. He was our trustee and was always helping out. He will be sorely missed.

Our next monthly meeting is October 18. A busy meeting is planned as we discuss



Br. 75's Dinner in the Vineyards

our Dinner and the Convention in San Diego and prepare for our Christmas projects and BBQ Dinner in February.

Take some time and enjoy the colors of Autumn!

**Petaluma  
St. Vincent, Br. 127**

Greetings from Petaluma!

2019 Officers are: President, Dennise Di-Girolamo; 1st VP, Lucy Spingola; Recording Secretary, Susan O'Connor; Financial Secretary, Sharon Hromek; Treasurer, Reno Iezza; Orator, Ann Cameron; Sentinel, Grace Herrold; Trustees, Roseanne Cresci, Mary Ellen Higgins, Louise Vicino. Congratulations to the new Officers and thank you to our past Officers for a job well done. Thank you, too, to Dante Corsetti, our Branch Mentor. He is always at the meeting to give us some of his wisdom.

We will have had our Polenta/Stew dinner by the time you get this. We thank the cooks and members who helped to make this a successful event.

- November 12 - Regular Meeting. Bring canned goods for the needy. Please come support our Branch
- December - No Meeting.
- December 1 - Quarterly Communion Mass - St. Vincent's Church 5:00pm.



Br. 209 Bishop's Day, Santa Rosa District. L: Bill & Judy Segale, Gene & Lorraine Vannetti; R: Dante & Jackie Corsetti, Eugene & Sharon Vannetti

Our Christmas Party will follow at the Sandalwood Estates. Marilyn Lombardi and Louise Vicino are the Chairs for this event. We promise to have a great dinner, with a special dessert. Plan to attend, as it will be a great start to the Christmas holiday.

Get well wishes to Bea McQuaid, Margaret Cordrey and Father Culligan. Thinking of you Bruno and glad to hear you are on the way to recovery.

Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary wishes to those celebrating. And of course a Happy Halloween to all.

And remember to be nice to someone, you will always get it back in return.

*Ciao,  
Louise Vicino*

**Sebastopol  
St. Sebastian, Br. 209**

A special thanks to Roy and Leona Spadoni, who prepared the delicious ham and scalloped potato dinner for our October meeting. We also enjoyed an apple pie donated by Donovan and Yvonne Dorr.

Thank you to everyone who came and helped us to have another successful Polenta and Chicken dinner on October 20th.

Save the date: December 1, 2018 - 52nd Anniversary of Branch 209. Ravioli Dinner.

Newly Elected Officers for 2019:

President: Pam Mc Alvain, 1st Vice-Pres: Yvonne Dorr, 2nd Vice-Pres: Roy Spadoni, Recording Secretary: Sharon Vannetti, Financial Secretary: Leona Spadoni, Treasurer: Lorraine Vannetti, Orator: Jackie Corsetti, Trustees: Bud Polley, Bill Segale, Nancy Steadman and Sentinel: Judy Segal. Installation of officers hosted by Sebastopol Branch #209 on January 29, 2019.

Please keep our sick members in your prayers: Marilyn Andrews, Colombini Albini and Evelyn Reese.

Best wishes to everyone for a Happy Thanksgiving.

*Ciao,  
Sharon Vannetti*

# Stockton

Modesto  
St. Stanislaus, Br. 48

Our Bake Sale was very successful thanks to all the hard work our members did baking cakes, cookies, biscotti, breads, pies, etc. You can't make money if you don't have something to sell and our members went all out baking for the sale.

Thanks goes also to those who baked cookies for the St. Stanislaus Fall Festival and all the other help our members provided.

A new branch calendar will be turned in to the parish office this month so that we can secure the hall and church for our events.

Antonella Turchetti will continue as our Heritage Chairperson and Mary Jennings will continue as our Membership Chairperson.

Some of our members were not available for the meeting so our election of officers will be held at the November meeting.

Mass for our deceased members will be Sundays November 11, 2018 and December 9, 2018 at 8:00am at the Maze Blvd. Church.

Refreshments for the November 14, 2018 meeting will be furnished by Nancy Souza.

Our Bank Night winner was Ermelinda Zamora.

Coming up:

- Nov 14 - 7:00pm Meeting 7th & K Street Hall
- Dec 12 - 6:00pm Christmas Party and meeting
- Jan 6 - 1:00pm Stockton District Installation of Officers

Cecelia McGhee

Stockton  
St. Luke, Br. 138

Monthly meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month, with dinner and either a heritage report or a high stakes game of chance. (It costs \$2 to buy into the games!)

Branch #138 held its first annual Polenta Feed on November 8. It is hoped that through events like the Polenta Feed, the ICF at St. Luke's Parish may continue to generate interest and attract more members.

Membership continues to be a top priority and plans are being made to mount a membership drive after the holidays. Branch #138 is encouraging members to wear their ICF name badges at all parish events to be more visible within our community. Events at the parish where ICF had a presence were the annual Fall Festival, the DIVAS (women's ministry) Ladie's Night Out, and events where the Knights of Columbus and ICF collaborated to help fundraise at the parish and school.

Manteca  
Nostra Signora del Buon Viaggio,  
Br. 139

Congratulations to Past Branch President Frank Re on his election to the ICF Central Council. Members of Branch 139 learned the news as Re and Branch President Elizabeth Demichelis returned from the Grand Convention in San Diego.

Anna Mello reported on preparations for our annual Holiday Biscotti sales. The baking and bagging of the biscotti will be held during Thanksgiving week. This activity has proven to be very popular and financially successful. All ingredients are donated by branch members with the baking labor, as well.

A new sink has been installed in the St. Anthony School cafeteria. It was donated by the branch and Joe Pellegrino and Ed Fichtner were thanked for their help with the project.

Our branch was congratulated at the convention for awarding four college scholarships over the present year. The recipients were Dwight Jackson, son of Lori Pellegrino Jackson (University of Puget Sound); Jordyn Posz, daughter of Richard and Cary Posz (California State University, Stanislaus); and Carly Cunial (California State Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo) and Emily Cunial (University of California, Santa Barbara), both daughters of Dan and Annie Cunial.

Branch 139 hosted the Stockton District at its October meeting at Cucina Queirolo in Lathrop with a polenta meal prepared by Chef Tony.

Ciao,  
Mariano

Tracy  
St. Bernard, Br. 390

When the weather feels like fall, we fall back on our best menu of the year - polenta and chicken cacciatore at its finest. Thanks for the best ever dinner served to Branch 390 and their many guests on October 18. We asked for and received so much cooperation from the folks who were in attendance, contributing both desserts and raffle prizes. Thanks to all for the continued support of our event.

Congratulations to Frank Re from our district - he has been elected to Central Council and we are proud to have one of our own district members in a position to take care of business! If you missed it in the Bollettino the contact email for Frank Re is [fre@icf.org](mailto:fre@icf.org). Here's your golden opportunity to help Frank make a difference - he's open to suggestions and we feel he's the right man for the job.

Nominations are coming up for the 2019 officers so keep in touch with your branch officers to voice your suggestions and show your interest in the upcoming board member list. We'd like to hear from you.

November dinner meeting will look familiar this year - turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, all the trimmings and pumpkin

pie of course, among the other desserts prepared by our diners.

Don't forget to look for yourself on our website: [icfbranch390.org](http://icfbranch390.org). The new photos include both the annual picnic and the convention held in San Diego.

Ciao for now,  
Betty Hollars

Stockton  
Presentation, Br. 395

What do you call Pizza and elections? Branch 395's most recent meeting! What a fun night.

We are excited to announce the 2018-2019 board:

President - Mary Ann Piana Chapman;

1st VP - Marilyn Ramacher;

2nd VP - Bob and Linda Langone;

Recording Secretary - Josephine Weber;

Financial Secretary - Mary Fry;

Treasurer - Geoff Lin-Cerehino;

Orator - Bob Zanoni;

Sentinel - Pat Bertilacchi;

Trustee - Becky Vergano.

This team looks forward to promoting ICF and its values throughout the next year.

Craving Polenta, save the date, our annual Polenta dinner will be Thursday, February 7, 2019.

Alla prossima,  
Mary Ann

ICF is  
Going  
Green!



If you prefer to read the Bollettino at the magnification of your choice in full color on your computer or portable electronic device, and like the idea of saving a tree while helping us save printing costs, visit this link to sign up: <http://eepurl.com/bLaMFb>

## ICF Branch Expansion: Seven Ways YOU Can Help!

Did you know that the ICF has an expansion team that works to start several new branches each year?

Our emphasis on faith, family and heritage still resonates strongly with many Catholics even now in 2018, 94 years after our founding.

There are seven great ways you can get the ball rolling to help us start a new branch:

1. If your previous pastor has been re-assigned to a parish without ICF, reach out to him about starting one.
2. If your branch supported a seminarian that is now ordained and assigned to a parish without ICF, reach out to him about starting one.
3. If you are in a parish that is without ICF, reach out to your pastor about starting one.
4. If you know of a parish nearby that is without ICF, reach out to pastor about starting one.
5. If you know of a parish that previously had ICF, and would be ideal to re-open the branch, reach out to pastor.
6. If you have friends in a parish without ICF, reach out to them about starting one.
7. Volunteer to be part of an expansion team to get a new branch started.

Contact Mike Rossi, ICF Expansion Committee Chairperson, at [mrossi@icf.org](mailto:mrossi@icf.org) for more information.

Thank you!

## Join the Hospitalization Plan!

You've heard of the AFLAC duck? Well, we have the ICF Chicken!

Extra money in your pocket when you're hospitalized or have surgery.

**We will be holding an Open Enrollment period where ANYONE, regardless of age, can enroll in the plan. From January 1 to December 31, 2019, members in good standing may join.**

So remember, when you pay your dues for 2019, add that extra \$25 per year for extra peace of mind. See the Hospitalization Plan section of the Members' Area page on the ICF website at <https://www.icf.org/membership/members/> for more details, or feel free to call the ICF Office at (888) ICF-1924 with any questions.

After one year the limitation to age 70 will go back into effect, with the exception of NEW incoming members. Brand new members, even if over the age of 70, may enroll and pay the Hospitalization Plan fee at the same time they pay their dues when they join.



## Officer Training Available

Attention ICF Officers!

**Officer training slides are available on our website for the following positions: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Financial Secretary and Treasurer, Recording and Corresponding Secretary, Sentinel and Orator.**

See the Officer Training section of the Members' Area page on the ICF website at <https://www.icf.org/membership/members/> to download the slides.



## Visited the ICF Website Yet?

If you have a computer, tablet or smartphone and haven't had the opportunity to visit the ICF's national website at [www.ICF.org](http://www.ICF.org), you are missing out!

**Here are some of the many things you can do:**

- Read current and past issues of the Bollettino newspaper will all pages in full color
- Access materials that you can use at a membership drive
- Read about some creative general meeting theme ideas
- View training modules to learn about ICF officer positions
- Find your nearest ICF branch based on city or zip code
- Download a membership application
- Learn about the ICF's history and organization
- Learn about the ICF's charitable programs and scholarships
- Nominate a candidate for an ICF award
- And much more

Visit today, or have someone show you how!



## Are You Fluent in ITALIAN?

Before you answer YES, we may not be asking the question you think we are. Using the letters of the word **ITALIAN** is a great way to remember how to maintain a path toward a successful, healthy and growing branch:

- I** **Inform yourself.** Make sure you know all about the ICF and what makes us special so that you can tell others.
- T** **Transform your branch.** Talk to your board about how you can make your branch more welcoming with music, hospitality, kids' areas and decorations.
- A** **Amazing meetings and events.** Keep business meetings short, and ensure every interaction with members is amazing with well planned spiritual/social/service programs and great food.
- L** **Leadership growth.** Invite others to lead, and mentor them.
- I** **Inform others.** Spread the word, and promote your branch in bulletins, newspapers and social media.
- A** **Ask for help.** Visit the ICF web site for ideas, speak to ICF officers or members in other branches, work with other ministries in your parish, etc.
- N** **Nurture your membership.** Show you care by reaching out if members miss meetings, visiting them if ill, encouraging them to share their talents and become more involved.

So, share the meaning of **ITALIAN** with your members and officers, and ensure your branch becomes fluent!